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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On the 17th July, at Mat'cu, Weihaiwei, the wife of C. F. Hogg, of a son.

At "Dunara," Chefoo, on the 20th July, the wife of W. GARDNER, of a son.

At 83, Institution Hill, Singapore, on 22nd ult., the wife of JOHN WATT, of a daughter.

At Ka Lee, 17, Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 26th ult., the wife of EDWARD J. F. BLOUNT, F.F.A., A.L.A., F.S.S., of a son.

At 4, Kimberley Villas, Kowloon, on the 29th July, the wife of Mr. W. C. JACK, of a son.

At Hongkong, on the 1st August, the wife of ARTHUR SUGDEN, I. M. Customs, of a daughter.

At Kowloon Dock, on the 2nd August, the wife of A. G. EWING, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At St. Andrew's Cathedral, Singapore, on July 21st, by the Ven. Archdeacon Perham, assisted by Rev. G. Knight Clarke, ARTHUR T. D. BERRINGTON, Acting Legal Adviser, Federated Malay States, to BEATRICE, daughter of Rev. James RATHBORNE, Rector of West Tytherley, Hants.

DEATHS.

On the 15th July, at Chefoo, MARIE MAGDALENE, infant daughter of Francisca and Georg DISSEMEYER, I. M. Customs, aged 10½ months. Deeply regretted.

On the 23rd July, at 1 a.m., at his residence, No. 10, The Bund, Shanghai, DAVID BRAND, aged 55 years.

On the 23rd July, at his residence, 14, Tien-dong Road, Shanghai, CHAS. LUDWIG BRETFELD, late pilot of the steamer *Kiang-foo*, aged 62 years.

At Shanghai, 23rd July, at 1 a.m., DAVID BRAND, aged 55 years.

At the San Juan de Dios Hospital, Manila, July 25th, Mrs. JOHN MACNEILL, daughter of Richard Bair, C. E., Dundee, Scotland, and wife of JOHN MACNEILL, missionary to seamen, Manila, representing the American Seamen's Friend Society.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 30th June arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 28th July (29 days); the French mail of the 29th June arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 29th July (30 days); the Canadian mail of the 9th July arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Em-*

press of China, on the 31st July (22 days); and the English mail of the 6th July arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, on the 2nd August (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The news of the week from the North will be found in the telegrams from our Correspondents on p. 85.

Bishop Scott has returned to Tientsin from Weihaiwei.

A tri-monthly steamship service has been established between Port Arthur and Chemulpo.

General Frey and staff, of the French Army, with 153 men, arrived at Nagasaki on the 20th ult. and left for Taku on the 21st ult.

A gentleman who has recently visited Port Arthur told the *N.-C. Daily News* that the Russians' principal objects at present were the subduing of Manchuria, and the guarding of her interests in Corea. For this reason she cannot spare more troops for Tientsin or Peking.

For conspicuous bravery at the capture of the Taku forts, the Tsar has conferred the Fourth Class of the Order of St. George on Captain Dobrowolski, commander of the Russian gunboat *Bobr*, who commanded the combined squadron, on Captain Sillman, commanding the gunboat *Korietz*, and on Lieutenants Szarytscheff, Dedeneff, and Titoff.

The transports which arrived in Hongkong Harbour from India during the week were *Duke of Portland*, *Sirha*, *Virawa* (29th ultimo), *Islanda* and *Pentakota* (30th ultimo), *Uralna* and *Nowshera* (31st ultimo), *Canning* and *Natiana* (1st instant). The departures for the north were *Sirha* (29th ultimo), *Islanda* (30th), *Pentakota*, *Virawa*, *Duke of Portland*, and *Uralna* (31st), *Nowshera* (1st instant), and *Natiana* (2nd instant). H.M.S. *Marathon* arrived on the 29th ultimo, H.M.S. *Wallaroo* on the 30th. H.M.S. *Mohawk* sailed for Canton, H.M.S. *Wallaroo* and H.M.S. *Marathon* for Shanghai on the 31st ultimo.

The new Commander-in-Chief of the French troops in Indo-China, in succession to the late General Borgnis-Desbordes, is General Dodds. General Dodds was nominated to this post as early as January, 1896—his service in Dahomey having won him a reputation—and arrived soon after in Tonkin. To the general surprise, on the 23rd July he was superseded by General Bichot. There was a great outcry about the affair, Gen. Bichot being a personal friend of M. Rousseau, Governor of Tonkin. However, General Dodds has at last attained the post which was not unnaturally the cause of so much bitterness to him before.

The Straits Government intends to amend the Chinese Immigrants' Ordinance of 1880. This arose from the fact that doubts have been sometimes felt and expressed as to what places are included in the expression "China" in the Chinese Immigrants' Ordinance. It is obvious that, for the purposes of Chinese immigration, the word should be considered rather as a geographical than as a political expression. This Bill has been drafted in order to settle the meaning of the word. It is so defined as to include Hongkong and other places such as Formosa which, though essentially Chinese, have ceased to form part of the Chinese Empire.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill has been appointed by President McKinley Special Commissioner and Chargé d'Affaires in China for the United States.

H. M. S. *Highflyer*, which is reported on her way out to the China station, is a 2nd class cruiser of 5,600 tons displacement and 10,000 i.h.p. (Belleville boilers). Built at Glasgow in 1898, she has gun-position armour of 3 in. and deck armour from 1½ to 3 in. Her guns are eleven 6 in. Q.F. and fifteen smaller Q.F.'s. Her speed is 20 knots and her complement 477. She is a sister-ship of the *Hermes* and *Hyacinth*.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says:—There has been some little friction lately between the China Association at home and the Shanghai branch of that once valuable body. The Shanghai branch has been urging steps which the somewhat comatose home committee has regarded as being indecently vigorous. At last the home committee has succumbed to the insistency of Shanghai, and has carried out Shanghai's request, but at a serious cost, for Mr. R. S. Gundry, the honorary secretary of the association since its formation, has resigned this arduous post.

We publish elsewhere an interesting interview which Mr. Francis McCullagh, a Tokyo journalist, has had with Count Okuma. The Count it will be remembered, was one of those who took part in the Japanese revolution of 1868, and through it rose to office. In 1873 he was appointed Minister of Finance, and held that post till 1881, when, through a disagreement with the Premier, Marquis Ito, he resigned. In 1888 he became Minister for Foreign Affairs for a short time, but his efforts to push forward the revision of the treaties with foreign nations made him unpopular, and he had to resign. After his first resignation in 1881 he organised the Progressive party known as the Kaishinto, and their power has steadily grown till, in 1896, it carried him into office as Foreign Minister. The Count has always advocated party government for Japan, and in 1898, after the fall of the Marquis Ito's Ministry, he organised the first Government ever appointed in Japan on a party basis, though he did not long remain in office.

The transport *Jelunga*, which is due here on Monday week, when she left Portsmouth on June 30th took the following officers, in addition to 430 seamen, 124 Royal Marine Artillery, and 216 Royal Marine Light Infantry:—Commander J. B. Eustace, Lieuts. J. B. Mansell, A. H. Betty, T. B. Noble, and H. M. Wilson; Staff-Surgeon W. E. Holme, in charge of medical staff; Surgeons J. Miller, R. Mundy, and A. Gaskell; Sub-Lieuts. W. E. Middleton, J. P. Ligard, F. C. Harvey, Assistant-Paymaster R. Burridge, Messrs. H. W. Lawrence, A. Knight, F. Harrison, and T. Slings; Mr. Rappert, carpenter; Mr. Cox, boatswain; and Mr. Shettle, assistant clerk; Royal Marine Artillery—Major F. Kappey, Capt. H. Worthington, and Lieut. J. B. A. Leahy. Royal Marine Light Infantry—Capt. C. M. Parsons and H. D. E. O'Sullivan, Lieuts. J. Hazel, H. S. L. Richmond, and C. Rooney, all for service with the Naval Brigades. The *Jelunga* also conveys a large consignment of medical and field stores, and ammunition, six 12-pounder field guns, and two Maxims. The 12-pr. guns are intended to take the place of those that have been landed by Capt. Percy Scott, C.B.

THE CRISIS IN NORTH CHINA.

(Daily Press, 28th July.)

As day by day advices arrive from the north—scanty in quantity, as they are, and much delayed in transmission—the political aspect of the situation in China seems to grow more and more complicated. The movement itself, from being confined to the Capital and a part of the Metropolitan province, is evidently showing a disposition to spread. Immediately along the Yangtze it may be said to have been held in check mainly by the firm attitude of one man, but it begins to look as if matters were getting beyond his control. The position of things at Tientsin indicates that the Chinaman, though usually a negligible quantity when fighting has to be done, may be raised by enthusiasm to the borders of frenzy and then becomes a formidable opponent enough. We are apt to forget that in the Taiping Rebellion we had a similar experience, and that however much was effected by the prowess of GORDON and his companions in arms, the final cause of the termination of that rebellion was sheer exhaustion. The recall of GORDON's name brings to mind the similarity of the position when he with a few troops was shut up in Khartoum. There is a close resemblance between the situation of GORDON in Khartoum and the actual condition of the Ministers shut up hermetically in Peking, and surrounded by rebels no less bloodthirsty than the followers of the Mahdi. In the present case, though there may have been a want of grasp and decision in treating Chinese subjects, neither LORD SALISBURY, nor any other statesman nor indeed anyone capable of forming an opinion—had up to the fatal 13th June, the slightest suspicion of the treachery about to be practised. The blow fell like a bolt out of the blue, nor is it at all likely that even of those engaged in the plot to expel the foreigner from Peking there was a single one who foresaw the course that events would take. We do not say this in any attempt to palliate the authors of the plot, because through the unskilfulness of the manipulators the explosion took a different direction from that intended. The real plot, in fact, included the massacre of every single foreigner in China; and it was owing to the bungling of the Empress-Dowager and her crew that the damage, great as it has been, was not immensely greater. But there are other dangers in the situation that seem to point it out as one, the real importance of which does not seem to be sufficiently appreciated. The murder of GORDON was only one of a series of events that brought home to England the extreme importance of the issues to be decided in Egypt, and the present status at Peking is only the natural outcome of not altogether dissimilar conditions. Had the other Powers been content to act in the general interest at Peking, there would have been no such divergencies of opinion as would have encouraged the truculent Government of the Dowager in the course she had marked out for herself, but it must remain the worst feature of the present situation that it was distinctly brought about by the undignified intrigues of the individual Ministers; not a few of whom were prepared to hail any indignity from the Imperial Court, provided only it fell on the person of one of their rivals. That this feeling, even in the present crisis, is not dead, we have proof in the undignified manner in which the proposals of Japan to take part in the relief of the Ministers at Peking were at first treated, when there was possibility of that assistance being effective; and the part taken by the British Government will remain as evidence of the loyalty

of LORD SALISBURY's Administration. But the feeling that could dictate such contemptible exhibitions of petty spite and ill considered intrigue as have recently been in evidence at Peking, is not dead, but only momentarily scotched, and is ready to break out again so soon as the opportunity offers. The situation at Peking is, in fact, one that concerns, not only our interests in China or India, or even Asia, but is of world-wide importance; and it behoves us to take up the affair in all seriousness. We are above all the rest of the world a Pacific Power; our interests in Canada, Australia, and India alike all point to this—that the disgrace at Peking is one in which the largest and most important Imperial issues are concerned, and that it is one that will tax the ability of England's greatest skill. The settlement of the complicated problem is one to which the highest statesmanship of the Empire may well be devoted, and we should hail the appearance on the scene of so well tried a statesman as, for instance, LORD CROMER. Whoever is sent, if we wish to avoid a repetition of previous errors, must be endowed with full plenipotentiary powers; and this alone points out the necessity for the immediate appointment of the most talented of England's sons available. If we are to judge of LORD SALISBURY's grasp of the situation from his appointment of Sir WALTER HILLIER as chief adviser to the Commander-in-Chief, we fear he has not yet recognised the gravity of the situation. For Sir WALTER HILLIER as a man we have every respect; but unfortunately he belongs to a school of *dilettanti* who more than all other causes combined have concurred in bringing about the present phase. The school that condoned the tortures of Hsuiwu by the burning of the Summer palace, has had its innings for forty years: the imprisonment and attempted murder of the Ministers has been the logical result. We certainly require in the crisis a higher type of statesmanship than is indicated by a BRUCE, a WADE, or a WALSHAM.

A CREDITABLE DISPLAY OF MOBILISATION.

(Daily Press, 2nd August.)

"They manage those things better in France." Those who remember France in the halcyon days of the third NAPOLEON will readily recall the deprecatory phrase with which it was the custom to reward every English attempt to get out of the groove into which we had permitted ourselves to drift during the long peace that followed the decisive victory of Waterloo. Our own experience in the Crimea taught us that the saying was not altogether unfounded as far as the arts of war were concerned, and the many English visitors, who, attracted by the novelty of the thing, went over to see the great Exhibition of 1857, probably the most picturesque of the whole series, came back from Paris fully convinced that in the arts of display, at least, we had much to learn from our neighbours across the Channel. Fortunately for us the Crimea taught us a lesson that has not yet been effaced from the memory of the nation; but it still required the humiliations of the Indian Mutiny to drive the lesson effectively home. The Franco-German war of 1870 again might reasonably have been supposed to have taught a useful lesson, but it was accepted in such a pedantic manner that mischief, rather than strength, was the result. Such was the position when we were suddenly called on to repress a most serious revolt amongst the Boers in South Africa. The country and the Government was taken in the end by surprise, but on the whole

both answered well the call, and before the end of the year considerably more than 100,000 troops were in the field after traversing some 6,000 miles of ocean. Though the call was unexpected, it was nobly responded to, and it was hoped that a resting time would be found after the expiry of the war. The war, however, was not concluded, but had arrived at what might be called its most critical period, when a cloud appeared suddenly on the eastern horizon. On the 10th of April no suspicion of anything more serious in China than a few riots, which would probably have to be suppressed by a landing party or two, was entertained by any one, in the secret, or out of it. On the 13th Peking was in a blaze, and the whole of the Foreign Ministers shut up in the city in danger of their lives from day to day. Since that fatal day not one European has entered or left the doomed city; and the extensive settlement at Tientsin, which it was supposed would be able to withstand any force that the Chinese Empire could bring against it, narrowly escaped being taken by assault, though defended by some thousands of troops from every European navy represented in China. Now in view of these facts it is interesting to see how the call was met. Russia, who had been strengthening her garrison at Port Arthur scarcely more than a hundred miles off, was naturally first on the scene. But, although summoned in a hurry, it is satisfactory to find that Great Britain was not far behind, and was able by the 10th June to have a body of marines and blue-jackets ready to take the field, and essay a rush for Peking, with the assistance of troops of other nationalities. That expedition was unsuccessful, but was not altogether in vain, as its prestige has certainly prevented any more serious attempts being made to take Tientsin by assault. Meanwhile, largely owing to the determined front shown by the Japanese, who quickly recognised the importance of the issue, the almost impregnable forts at Taku were escalated, and an opportunity opened for the protection of Tientsin. By the 9th of July the European Powers, by a concentration of the forces held by each in Chinese waters, were able to muster on the Peiho a small army of some ten to twelve thousand men, of whom some two thousand eight hundred were British—a force, unfortunately quite inadequate to the task before it. Japan who individually had succeeded in sending the largest number of troops, and who had taken a conspicuous part in the capture of the Taku Forts, found herself hampered by the jealousies of the Continental Powers, and though reliefs had been ordered, the British troops in garrison were but few, while an unreasonable delay had occurred in sending out the reliefs to the fleet. Under the circumstances it spoke well for the officers in charge of the Navy and Army on the station that they were able to place in the field so large and so well-found a force as they did. For once, however, the British Government woke up to the danger of the situation; on the 18th June we find that the details of an expedition from India were already determined on, and the staff and regiments to be sent already selected. No fuss seems to have been made about the preparations, and the first known in China of the actual embarkation was a few days before the 9th July, when the *Nerbudda*, carrying the first troops of the contingent, entered Hongkong Harbour, to be succeeded on the 11th by the *Palamcottia*, and then in rapid succession have followed a string of twenty-three transports, down to the arrival of the *Canning* and *Natiana* yesterday. This may be looked

upon as hitherto unequalled performance though of course with the facilities afforded and the state of preparation in which we were always given to understand the Indian Army was kept, it is not to be looked upon as phenomenal. Still for us in China the result is eminently satisfactory, as any break-down at the present critical position of affairs would be certainly looked upon as a sign of weakness, and would lead to the still wavering ones, who are waiting till the signs of the times declare themselves before they decide what side they shall take themselves in the coming struggle, going with the enemy. The British Government has, however, done even better, and for this we ought to be thankful. As we hinted, there were signs of jealousy being exhibited in view of the proposals of the Japanese Government to send further troops, and these proceeded so far that there arose actual danger of the Japanese withdrawing; it is to the credit of the British Foreign Office that this new danger was averted. It was besides known that the Japanese Government at the beginning of the year found its finances in an excessively strained position, and could but ill afford the means for an extensive expedition; here again it is right to recollect that Lord SALISBURY found himself able without hurting the pride of the sensitive Japanese to make proposals, which although not immediately accepted will in all probability result in some measures being taken to reimburse Japan for her extra share in suppressing the threatened trouble. On the whole, we may fairly plume ourselves on having learned a lesson, and though in common with all our neighbours, we have been taken unawares, our resources have even in an exceedingly difficult time, while we are engaged in the carrying on of a serious war to South Africa, proved fairly equal to the strain.

YANGTZE AFFAIRS.

(Daily Press, 30th July.)

As far as Central China is concerned, the telegram which reached us from Shanghai yesterday afternoon brings the most serious item of intelligence since the beginning of the present crisis. The murderous outbreak of anti-foreign feeling so far south as Chuchowfu, in Chekiang, cannot fail to arouse the greatest anxiety for the safety of the region at the mouth of the Yangtze, and above all for the Settlements at Shanghai. It is true that the telegram announces that the prefect and four of his yamen-runners perished with the missionaries, but while this tends to show that the officials are remaining loyal to their undertaking, it also proves that the rising is a strong one and capable of overcoming the local authorities. There is a distinct note of uneasiness in the last part of the telegram describing the energetic preparations of the Yangtze Viceroy and the strengthening of the forts. The fact of Admiral Seymour remaining at Woosung indicates that it is not only the people of Shanghai who think that the situation needs careful attention. With regard to the Woosung Forts, which rumour makes the object on which the foreign warships near the mouth of the Yangtze are keeping a watch, the old batteries near Princess Wharf, Woosung, were dismantled recently after Woosung was declared an open port, but the existing batteries are at Setze-lin, eight miles nearer the Yangtze, and these forts have good guns commanding the anchorage and the river entrance. In the unhappy event of a rupture with the Yangtze Viceroy it would be these forts with which the allies would have to deal.

We have, however, no real indications that the Yangtze Viceroy intend to abandon

their wise and patriotic action of refusing to acknowledge the existing Government of Peking, unless it can be proved that their military preparations are greater than are necessary for protecting their provinces against the pretended "Imperial" troops from the north. It is natural enough that Shanghai should feel anxious at the busy aspect of affairs in the Yangtze Valley, and caution demands that Admiral SEYMOUR shall keep as many ships as can be spared to watch the Settlements. Events are amply proving the wisdom of putting Hongkong on as strong a footing as possible, and employing it as a secondary base, from which all emergencies in Central China can be met. Owing to the tardy recognition of this necessity by the home Government, any rapid spread of trouble in Chekiang and the neighbouring region may place us in an awkward position; but the energetic manner in which transports and warships have been hastened forward to China has gone a long way to repairing years of wilful blindness and neglect. As was the case in South Africa, we have risen to the occasion and done far better in the matter of mobilisation than anyone could have anticipated. But this is a small item on the credit side to put against previous apathy. "All's well that ends well" is not the motto of statesmen.

THE DEATH OF THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA.

(Daily Press, 3rd August.)

Her Majesty's millions of subjects in her world-wide Empire will all join in a sincere expression of sympathy in her fresh bereavement. The death of Prince ALFRED, Duke of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, and Duke of Edinburgh in the peerage of Great Britain, will undoubtedly be a blow to our venerated Sovereign, which she will probably feel the more at the present juncture, coming as it does on the top of the South African War, in the course of which Her Majesty has lost so many faithful servants and devoted soldiers. His Royal Highness the late Duke was a reigning Prince having succeeded his uncle ERNEST II., on the 22nd August, 1893, only seven years ago. As Duke of Edinburgh and an Admiral in the British Fleet, he was formerly a prominent figure in Great Britain, and was much liked by his officers. He visited the Far East in 1869, and on the 31st October in that year arrived in Hongkong, where he was most cordially received and hospitably entertained. During his stay in the Colony he laid the foundation stone of the choir of St. John's Cathedral, and took part in other functions. He also visited Peking, but was refused audience by the then Emperor TUNG CHI, an honour the sailor prince probably felt little anxiety to receive. His short reign in Saxe Coburg was clouded by the sad death at an early age of his only son and heir, Prince ALFRED. He will be succeeded by his nephew the Duke of ALBANY, who was recently selected on the refusal of the Duke of CONNAUGHT, the next in succession, to be nominated as his brother's successor to the ducal crown. The late Duke ALFRED, who was the second son of Her Majesty the QUEEN, was born on the 6th August, 1844, and was therefore nearly the same age as the late lamented King HUMBERT of Italy, who was not quite five months the Duke's senior. Duke ALFRED married on the 23rd January, 1874, the Grand Duchess MARIE of Russia, only daughter of the Emperor ALEXANDER II., and aunt of the present Czar NICHOLAS II. He leaves four daughters, three of whom are married, the elder being now Crown Princess of Rou-

mania. The late Duke was an ardent lover of music and no mean performer on the violin. There are probably some residents still in the Colony who remember His Royal Highness taking part in the orchestra at an amateur performance in the Theatre Royal, City Hall. The Duke had, we understand, made himself greatly beloved in his principality, where he will be much regretted. As a souvenir of his visit to Hongkong, an oil-painting, representing the Duke as he appeared in 1869, hangs on the wall of St. Andrew's Hall, which, though beneath contempt as a work of art, now possesses some historic interest.

LI HUNG-CHANG'S MISSION.

(Daily Press, 31st July.)

As will be seen from our Canton correspondent's letter, there is an impression among the Cantonese (though it is not accepted as a correct impression) that Viceroy LI HUNG-CHANG is about to return south, his mission at Shanghai having failed. That the "mission" would fail was obvious at the start, and we can hardly believe that so old a diplomatist as Li imagined otherwise, even though he, if any one, knows the weaknesses of the nations of the West in dealing with China. Who imposed the mission on Li he has not condescended to explain, so that he laboured under the double burden of having to offer ridiculous proposals and of having no credentials to show from any Government which the rest of the world recognized. Seeing now the futility of further attempts to deal with the foreign representatives at Shanghai unless he can prove that he is the accredited agent of some legitimate central authority capable of diplomatic intercourse with other nations, he can gain nothing by a further stay at Shanghai. It is unlikely, if not actually impossible, that he can proceed further north. He cannot indeed be sure of his reception by the Boxer-led criminals who have landed China in her present position. There remains the alternative of returning to Canton, where the name of LI HUNG-CHANG is still awe-inspiring, and where, if he continues in the policy which he maintained before his recent mistaken departure, he may yet prove of service to his countrymen. Shanghai, we know, will be glad to see him gone; so too will the Yangtze Viceroy, as the *North China Daily News* pointed out in an article in Thursday's issue. His presence there only adds to the difficulties of their position, which are gradually becoming greater. If it is true that CHANG CHIH-TUNG, Viceroy of the Hu-kuang, is doubtful of his ability to restrain his troops many days more, affairs on the Yangtze are indeed precarious, and Admiral SEYMOUR has not arrived a moment too soon at the river mouth. But unfortunately the fleet can do no more than safeguard the coast. The defence of the *status quo* in the interior must be left in the hands of the Viceroy, who in their turn can only rely on the personal loyalty of their troops. If these fail them, nothing can prevent the accomplishment of the anti-foreign party's desire—the extinction of the foreigner in the interior in China, for all who have not yet fled must perish. News from the Yangtze will now be awaited with eagerness second only to news of the Peking prisoners. But in these days of exaggerated rumours it does not do to accept the most authoritative-looking statements without the utmost caution, and we must be prepared to await further intelligence of CHANG CHIH-TUNG before concluding that an outbreak in the Yangtze Valley is upon us.

AN APPEAL FOR OUR DEFENDERS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 1st August.)

In another column we publish a letter, dated from Weihaiwei, from Mrs. Scott, who addresses us in the absence of her husband, the Right Rev. Bishop Scott, who has returned to Tientsin to render assistance in the work of mercy to the wounded. Mrs. Scott makes a most earnest and pathetic appeal for assistance on behalf of those of our forces wounded in relieving and defending Tientsin. Unfortunately war cannot be waged even with the Chinese without a terrible butchers' bill, and we shall have many fine fellows returned on our hands physical wrecks. It is for such that Mrs. Scott appeals so simply, yet so eloquently, and, we trust, so effectively. As a first response thereto we have opened a subscription list and doubt not that our modest contribution will be followed by a ready string of names when once the movement has been started. Many appeals have been made of late to the purses of residents in the Far East, and have been most cheerfully and generously met, as witness the subscriptions for the South African Fund and the Indian Famine Relief Fund. These have not, we are sure, exhausted the liberality of the people of this Colony, and the appeal now made must touch them if anything still more nearly. The soldiers and sailors killed and injured have lived among us, they have shed their blood in defence of our countrymen and countrywomen in Tientsin, and they deserve well of their country and their countrymen. This is the seamy side of war, and it is brought home to us by the extensive preparations made at Weihaiwei to accommodate the wounded who have been conveyed there. There will be work to do yet for the ladies of Hongkong, in preparing lint and bandages and finding medical comforts for the wounded. These will, we feel certain, be readily forthcoming if needed. Meantime everything is being done at Weihaiwei that can be accomplished with the means at command to provide for the comfort of the wounded. It is now our privilege and part to subscribe liberally to a fund for the assistance of the invalided and wounded men of the army and navy who have suffered injury or disablement during the hostilities so lately commenced by the Chinese against the Treaty Powers. We do not pretend to beg for this Fund; we are sure there is no need; its existence only needs to be known for it to awaken a warm and eager response in every patriotic and sympathetic heart.

The following naval appointments have been notified at the Admiralty:—Lieutenants: Charles R. Mansel, Howard B. Wilson, Frederick B. Noble, Arthur K. Betty, all to the *Centurion*, additional, to go out with draft for China at the end of the month, all to date from June 22. Sub-Lieutenants: Francis C. Harvey and George P. Legard, both to the *Centurion*, to go out with draft for China at the end of the month, both to date from June 22. Commander J. B. Eustace to the *Centurion*, additional, to take charge of ratings for China, to date June 21. Assistant Paymaster R. A. M. Burridge, to the *Centurion*, additional, to date June 21. Staff Surgeon J. McC. Martin, to the *Centurion*, to date June 25. Surgeons R. C. Munday and N. J. Roche, to the *Centurion*, to date June 25. Lieutenants: Francis M. Leake, to *Bramble*; Philip Walter, to *Britomart*. Sub-Lieutenants: John A. Followes, Charles S. Forbes, to *Britomart*; Francis M. Hodgson, Malcolm H. S. Macdonald, to *Bramble*. Surgeons: G. B. Brown, to the *Britomart*, and J. W. Bird, to the *Bramble*, to date June 28. Assistant Paymaster R. A. M. Burridge, to the *Centurion*, additional, undated, to go out with draft in the *Jelunga*.

INTERVIEW WITH COUNT OKUMA ON THE CHINESE QUESTION.

[SPECIAL ARTICLE.]

I have just had the following interview with Count Okuma, ex-Foreign Minister, and one of the most illustrious of the elder statesmen in Japan, with regard to the Chinese embroglio.

Speaking on the causes that led to the Boxer disturbances, the Count said:—

"There are direct causes and indirect causes. The indirect causes are those that always operate when the Western Powers come into contact with old nations possessing a different civilisation, and they have operated for a long time past in the neighbouring Empire, which, considering itself immeasurably superior to all Western nations, hates them nevertheless for their superiority in material strength. This indirect cause has been responsible for the massacres, that have taken place more than once in China, of foreign teachers of missionaries, and it was once at work here in Japan.

The direct causes of the present trouble are, among others, the usurpation of the Empress-Dowager and the popular antipathy to the Catholic missionaries. When the Empress-Dowager usurped the powers of Government and summoned to the front conservative statesmen who were in full and perfect sympathy with the popular anti-foreign spirit of which I have just spoken, it might easily have been known what was going to happen.

As for the Catholic priests, when they first came to China they found themselves unable for obvious reasons to keep up anything like a close connection with home, and being thus compelled to live among the Chinese as Chinamen almost, they were very favourably received by the people and there were then none of those anti-missionary disturbances of which we have heard so much for this last fifty years or so. What was the cause of the change? It was this. The Catholic priests, taking advantage of the power and influence of their respective countries, attempted to arrogate to themselves political power which did not of course belong to them; and hence the feelings of the *literati* and of the people towards them underwent a sudden change. The treaties of Tientsin, forty years ago, showed that Napoleon the Third was anxious to use the power of his State for the good of the French missionaries and this tendency to connect religion with national authority, manifested as it was on other occasions, very much increased the hatred of the Chinese towards the missionaries."

I here asked the Count if he thought that the action of Russia and Germany in leading the way in Chinese "grabs" had contributed to any very considerable extent to the creation of the present difficulties.

He answered as follows:—

"The effect of the action of Russia, Germany and other countries is not, I think, as great as might at first sight appear to be the case, for the Chinaman has, as you know, no patriotism, or his patriotism is at all events confined to the limited district in which his particular dialect of Chinese is spoken—there being in the middle Kingdom, I need not remind you, a great number of dialects not in some cases intelligible to one another. I am therefore of opinion that, however much effect the seizures to which you refer may have had on the educated Chinese, the uneducated majority were not in all probability aware that the seizures had taken place at all, and were doubtless ignorant of the fact that the Liaotung Peninsula was within the boundaries of their country at all. Under such circumstances it is not impossible that the seizures may have had some effect in kindling the hatred of the *literati*, but I think that the amount of its influence on the people was very small.

The causes I have already mentioned are the really important causes that have been at work for a long time—they are the feeling of hatred entertained by the Chinese in general towards the civilized Powers and their profound dislike for the missionaries. In this latter connection I may add that the efforts of the converted Chinese to escape from the control of their own Government contributed not a little to the dislike with which the missionaries were regarded."

Here I asked the Count what indemnity would Japan probably ask from China after quiet had been restored, and how that indemnity would be collected.

"Of course," he answered, "an indemnity will be asked, but the question is, How will it be paid? At present the Central Government is very weak and incapable, I think, of levying taxes throughout the whole country. In any other nation an appeal might be made in similar circumstances to the national sentiment of the people, but among the Chinese the sentiment of nationality is very weak at present. The Chinese merchants do not, you will notice, consider themselves safe under the protection of their own Government, and great numbers of them are at present doing business under the protection of foreign Powers, and running their steamers under foreign flags. Under these circumstances I am very doubtful whether the Chinese Government will be able to raise enough money to meet the demands of the foreign Powers—demands which will, I think, be large. Much damage has been done to the property of their nationals by the Boxers, and the expenses for sending considerable bodies of troops to China and maintaining large fleets in Chinese waters will serve to swell the bill. It will be useless, therefore, to demand an indemnity, cash down, from China at the end of the present troubles, for at that time she will be unable to pay even the interest on the national loan of five or six hundred millions."

"Several important questions will confront the allied Powers when they reach Peking and bring about the restoration of peace, for it is not yet known if the Chinese Emperor is alive or not. It was reported, you may remember, that the usurper who has taken possession of the Emperor's throne has also taken his life; and, if that is true, it is not likely that the Powers will recognize this usurper, for it was owing to him that the present difficulties have arisen. It is probable, in that case, that the powers will elect a suitable person from among the members of the Imperial family and place him on the throne. With him at the head of affairs, the necessary security for the lives of missionaries and the property of foreign merchants must be obtained; and for that purpose the hands of the Central Government must be strengthened. No better means of doing this can be found than the creation of a regular and well disciplined army, directly under the control of the Emperor. That will require the taking of another step, however—the readjustment of the finances. The finances of China are, I need not tell you, in a very bad state at present, the different Governors having complete control of the finances in the districts under their control. This system must be improved; and the power of controlling the finances all over the Empire must rest with the central Government alone. At the same time, a well-organized police, established at the different open ports, must see to the safety of foreign merchandize. These things cannot, however, be accomplished by the Chinese themselves; they must be assisted by the allies, including of course the Japanese. The amount of the national debt is, as I have already pointed out, five or six hundred millions, and the amount of the indemnity that might be demanded by the allies might, though it cannot of course be fixed as yet, amount to, say, four or five hundred millions besides. In that case the interest on the whole national debt will be four or five hundred millions, and, as it will be utterly impossible for the Chinese to pay such a sum at once, the allies must, when they reach Peking, cause them to adopt various measures for the improvement of the national finances. There is one step which the allies might take with regard to this payment of indemnity, supposing they take the taxes for security, and that is the abolition of *lekin* in the interior. This measure would certainly bear good fruit. The tax in question is levied, as you must be aware, on merchandise in the interior, and as it goes altogether into the corrupted official's pockets, it does not tend to swell the national revenue. This tax once abolished, Chinese commerce will develop with great rapidity. It is at present worth only 600 millions against Japan's 415 millions, but in a few years Japan will have surpassed China in this particular. That will not be a difficult feat indeed, considering how very slowly the resources

of China are being developed in spite of the extent of these resources and the vastness of the country. Taxes like the *lekin* are a great hindrance to the commercial development of the country and should be taken off at all costs; and I think that we should also allow China to raise a little the tariff on imports, say to 10 per cent. If the *lekin* is abolished, business will revive in a surprising manner; and the Chinese Government will not only be able to pay the indemnity but have enough left over to organize a new army, and a new police force, and to carry out all the other necessary improvements. Of course this raising of the tariff seems at first sight a very unprofitable measure for the Powers to take; but we remember that as soon as the bad taxes are abolished commerce will double and treble, and the final result will be to the benefit of the foreign Powers as well as of the Chinese Government. These measures taken, it is possible that the Chinese, by utilizing their vast resources, may be able to pay the indemnity and in a comparatively short space of time accomplish many great improvements and reforms.

"This is my idea of what will happen when these disturbances are settled; but there will be some difficulty in executing this plan.

"There is now a united force marching on Peking, a force consisting of units that never met before since the world began. When that force enters Peking and plans of reform are to be put into execution, the Chinese will need a great many foreigners, and in hiring them from the different Powers they may cause much jealousy and ill-will, for from some Powers they must not borrow more employees than from others."

I pointed out that the same difficulty had arisen in Siam, which had finally to repair for many of its employees to small countries like Belgium and Denmark.

"Another difficulty," continued the Count, "is that, while the plan I have just outlined or something similar may be welcome to Powers which have only their commercial interests in view, it may not receive the sanction of ambitious Powers which are only lent on territorial aggrandisement. If there be such an ambitious Power and if it objects to this plan which is nothing but a scheme for the development of the commercial interests and the national resources of China, its failure to agree with the other nations would probably involve the world in endless wars. But allowing that this difficulty, which would mean of course the division of China's territories among the Powers, were finally overcome, there would remain a greater difficulty. How are the European Powers to keep their newly acquired territory under their rule and how are they to establish order and peace within their respective spheres? You must remember that the Chinese people have a history stretching back for 4,000 years, that they are some 400 million in number, that they are a great force in the world, and that the foreign Powers cannot subjugate them and hold them in subjection as easily as they think. There will be continual uprisings of the people against their foreign masters; and in order to repress these uprisings armies must be kept on the spot all the time and fresh armies sent constantly. All this will involve the Powers of course in enormous expense and their gains will, I fear, be small, for the disturbed state of the country will affect commerce and disturb the market. If, then, the Powers be led by ambition to cut up China they will find that they have killed the goose with the golden eggs, and lost all the advantages they would otherwise have obtained in that country, and the cutting-up policy is therefore by no means advisable. One of the most necessary conditions to our deriving great benefit from China is the maintenance of the Chinese Empire, much as it is at present. After we had secured the common interests of the country by the adoption of the plan I have just outlined, the trade of the country would be gradually increased to an enormous extent, and the Powers would derive the greatest benefit from it. In order to enjoy that benefit it will be necessary, however, for the Powers first to adjust satisfactorily any petty differences that may arise among them; and, if any ambitious Power stands in the way of such adjustment, the rest of the Powers should unite together to put that Power down and to prevent its ambition from injuring all of them. I hope that the Powers will work together in a spirit of confidence

in order that this great trouble may be made to pass away and that this unique opportunity for conferring a great benefit on humanity at large may not be lost."

To my question whether the foreign admirals had not acted somewhat too precipitately at Taku, the Count answered:—

"Perhaps the Admirals were compelled to open fire on the fortifications at Taku; but judging from the newspapers, I should be inclined to conclude that they acted in a somewhat hasty and indiscreet manner and that more reliance ought to have been placed in diplomacy than in force. I certainly think that, if the present report of the massacre of the foreign Ministers and other at Peking be true, the attack on Taku excited the populace to fury and led them to take that terrible step. I have no special news on this matter, however, and only rely on what I have seen in the newspapers."

On my finally asking the Count if, at the International Conference which would meet together after the cessation of the present troubles, the question of Corea would be reopened, he answered that the question of Corea had nothing whatever to do with the question of China. This concluded the interview.

FRANCIS McCULLAGH.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.]

SHANGHAI, 26th July, 6.40 p.m.

Admiral Seymour, with H.M.S.S. *Centurion* and *Alacrity*, has arrived at Woosung to-day.

SHANGHAI, 27th July, 8.44 p.m.

All foreigners were murdered and their premises burnt at Paotingfu, on the 7th instant.

H.E. Yuan Shikai telegraphs Consul-General Warren that the Ministers were safe in Peking on the 24th instant. The Chinese Government were supplying the Ministers with fresh meat and vegetables.

A telegram from Hsianfu states that on Monday last the Shansi native Christians were massacred, and five foreigners.

A prominent native banker, who escaped from Peking on the 7th instant, states that all the Legations were then destroyed, and the foreigners had all disappeared. He himself was too scared to enquire as to their fate. General Tung's troops left Peking on the 7th instant. The city was then quiet.

SHANGHAI, 29th July, 3.52 p.m.

Nine China Inland missionaries, also the prefect and six yamen-runners, are reported to have been murdered at Chuchowfu in Chekiang.

The Belgian missionaries at Jehol in Mongolia report that with the help of the native Christians they can defy the Boxers' attacks for an indefinite time.

Admiral Seymour remains here with a large fleet. The Yangtze Viceroy is rapidly arming and strengthening the forts, ostensibly against the rebel Emperor and Boxers.

SHANGHAI, 30th July, 5.30 p.m.

A Chefoo telegram yesterday brought news from Peking on the 22nd inst. that the Germans had ten dead and twelve wounded. All the Legations were damaged and five had been destroyed, including the French, the ruins of which were still defended by guards.

The Chinese attack on the Legations ceased on the 16th inst., but is renewable at any moment. Relief, continues the message, is very urgently needed.

The Emperor and Empress (Dowager) are in Peking.

It is reported that ten thousand Chinese attacked Newchwang yesterday.

SHANGHAI, 31st July, 9.36 p.m.

The Japanese Minister at Peking writes on the 19th July that he expects the Fifth Division of the Japanese Army to arrive to-day (Tuesday) at Peking. He hopes that the Legations can hold out.

The *Echo de Chine* for to-day (Tuesday) says that the Peking-Paotingfu Railway is sufficiently repaired to allow the progress of waggons pushed by hand to convey treasures from the Imperial Palace westward.

The course of Li Ping-heng to the north is marked by the bodies of murdered Christians and by burnt missions.

Li Hung-chang has reported to the Throne that he can do nothing unless the Boxers are checked, the Ministers released, the Christians protected, and Li Ping-heng crushed.

SHANGHAI, 31st July, 9.55 p.m.

A message from Sir Robert Hart and Mr. R. E. Bredon, dated Peking, 21st July, states that the I.M.C. staff and their families are still safe. A similar confirming message has been received.

SHANGHAI, 1st August, 7.31 p.m.

Fifty missionaries have been killed in Shansi. A terrible slaughter has been made of native Christians. Eleven missionaries left Hsianfu on Sunday for Hankow.

Admiral Seymour, with the *Alacrity*, has gone to Nanking to-day on a visit to the Viceroy.

Documents found at Tientsin prove that the Viceroy's yamen there was the headquarters of the Boxer movement.

Most reassuring news has come from Peking, where the foreigners are cheerfully awaiting relief. The wounded are doing well.

SUPREME COURT.

July 30th.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND HIS HONOUR SERCOMBE T. SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

YU HING LUNG (APPELLANT) v. CARMICHAEL AND BARLOW (RESPONDENTS.)

Mr. Sharp (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) appeared for the appellant, and Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the respondents.

This was a motion for leave to appeal against the decision of the Acting Puisne Judge delivered in favour of the defendants, who were sued for work done. Mr. Sharp said the appeal was practically on a question of fact, it being contended that the judgment was against the weight of evidence. The plaintiff's story was that on the 10th October last year a contract was entered into by the plaintiff and the Kwong Hing Cheung Firm with regard to the building of some steam-launch engines. In January of this year the defendants discovered that the work would not be done in time by the Kwong Hing Cheung firm; consequently on the 8th February an arrangement of some kind was made between plaintiff and the defendant Barlow, whereby the plaintiff agreed to do the work which the Kwong Hing Cheung could not finish, refusing, however, to do it for the Kwong Hing Cheung firm, though that firm were to approve of it, inasmuch as they had done the bulk of it. The bills were made out in the name of the Kwong Hing Cheung at the defendant's request, so as to enable them to recover if necessary. On the 18th May the work was finished and the defendants demurred as to payment. The explanation of this was given by the defendant Barlow himself, Barlow stating that they lost \$1,600 or \$1,700 on the contract.

Mr. Sharp was continuing with his story when the Chief Justice said he had no need to go on any further, as the Court gave him leave to appeal on a question of fact.

July 31st.

SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE), AND JURY.WONG POK SHAN V. KWONG SAU MAN AND
ANOTHER.

In this case the plaintiff sought to recover from the defendants the sum of \$1,000, damages for malicious prosecution and false imprisonment.

Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Looker for the defendants.

The jurors were Messrs A. A. H. Botelho, J. J. L. Monteiro, and W. Nagel.

Mr. Slade said that in January or February, 1899, the plaintiff went into the employ of the defendants, who were silk merchants and general dealers at 29, Jervois Street. The plaintiff was a working tailor but his duty was also to serve customers. Shortly after the plaintiff entered the defendant's employ a man of the name of Wong Hing Chun, who was a clan brother of his and carried on business at Honolulu, came into the shop and wanted to buy some goods on credit. The plaintiff consulted the secretary, who said he could supply the goods, the cost of which was about \$80. In due course the clothing, or part of it, was made, and on the 5th of May Wong Hing Chun came into the shop again, introducing a man named Leung Sam Wing, whom he said was his partner, and saying that Leung Sam Wing wanted some clothing on credit. The plaintiff again consulted the secretary, who, on being informed that the previous account had been paid, said that the goods could be supplied. Accordingly goods valued at \$180 were supplied, \$30 bargain money having been deposited. Towards the end of the Chinese year the defendants began to collect their accounts, and as they could not find the plaintiff's clansman or partner they applied to the plaintiff for the money owing. The plaintiff said he would write to Honolulu. When the end of the Chinese year came the money had not been paid, and the defendants dismissed the plaintiff because he would not pay the account, and subsequently had him arrested on a charge of obtaining goods by false pretences. They also detained some property belonging to him. Mr. Slade read the evidence of the first defendant at the Magistracy, and called attention to the fact that the depositions stated that the man was discharged and that an application by Mr. Looker on behalf of the prosecution for a rehearing was refused.

The plaintiff then gave evidence, bearing out the statement of his counsel.

The case comes before the Court again to-day (Saturday.)

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On Thursday afternoon, the 2nd inst., a meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. The President (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works) occupied the chair, and there were also present Mr. J. McKie, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, Mr. Chan A Fook, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

THE SANITARY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Mr J. R. Crook (Sanitary Surveyor) submitted his report for the second quarter of 1900. He said plans had been deposited during the quarter for the re-drainage of 201 houses, plans for 388 were carried forward from 1899 and 162 from last quarter, making a total of 751 in hand during the quarter. The drainage of 58 houses had been completed, leaving 693 to carry forward. Repairs and additions had been carried out in 18 instances, and 325 houses were carried forward. This made a total of 343 houses in hand for repairs during the quarter. Certificates had been granted under section 74 of Ordinance 24 of 1887 to 83 new buildings and, one addition that they had been built in accordance with the provision of that Ordinance. The drains of 37 houses had been inspected and reported on. Of this number one required reconstructing, 21 amending, and 15 were found to be in good order. Notices had been served on the owners of 22 houses, calling upon them

to execute the necessary work. In addition to the above 344 minor drainage defects, such as broken taps, choked pipes, and the discharge of sullage water into storm water drains had been discovered. Notices had been served in each case on the owner or occupier to execute the necessary work or to abate nuisances. 109 nuisances had been reported to the Medical Officer of Health to be dealt with by him.

THE SUGGESTED ESTABLISHMENT OF
A PEAK SEWAGE FARM.

A further reply from the Government relative to the proposed sewage farm for the Peak was submitted. It was as follows:—

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 114 of the 21st July relative to the recommendation of the Board for the establishment of a Peak Sewage Farm and to inform you in reply that in view of the recent large additions to the expenditure in the Sanitary Department it was not considered that further expenditure in the scheme in question was justified, especially in view of the fact that sewage from the Hill District appears to be carried to the conservancy boats in a fairly satisfactory manner."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"I should like to know on what evidence the assertion is made that sewage is carried to the boats in a fairly (very loose expression) satisfactory manner. I know this is not the case. Much is dumped on the hillside and in the drain, and what comes in buckets is a nuisance to everybody."

THE USE OF SEA WATER FOR WATERING
THE STREETS.

With reference to the Board's unanimous resolution recommending the Government to appoint a committee to enquire into the question of the water supply of Victoria, the following correspondence was submitted:—

From the Director of Public Works to the Acting Colonial Secretary:

"I see no object whatever for appointing such a committee. The Government are perfectly aware that increased storage of water has become necessary, owing to the increase of population, and money is being voted and steps taken to commence the work."

"The year 1900 was preceded by three comparatively dry years, and yet the City had only to put up with an intermittent supply for 13 days, while the cases of inconvenience from want of water were very few and due as a rule to imperfection of the house services and not dearth of water."

"I mention this to shew that the works carried out in the last few years, such as the raising of Tytam, the construction of Wong Nai Cheung Reservoir, and of the two catchwaters, have added largely to our available supply in the dry season."

"The Sanitary Board should not be permitted to use filtered water for watering the street. Unfiltered water from hillside streams has been made available for them in Caine Road and Bonham Road, while for the lower levels proper water carts should be provided, to be filled from the harbour with hand pumps."

"If by the main sewers is meant the pipe sewers in the city, in my opinion they are now sufficiently flushed. They carry off the 3,000,000 gallons of water used daily in the city, and that so rapidly that there is no time for decomposition. An inspection of these sewers at any of the manholes will as a rule shew them running half full with water, while there are some 25 flushing tanks in use at the higher levels now."

"If the storm drains are referred to, I think that the expense of providing for flushing them in the dry season is quite prohibitive. In the wet season they are constantly swept clean by every shower of rain, besides they are polluted to a very small extent, and so open and ventilated that they can do little harm."

"The consumption of water in the extinction of fires is comparatively trifling—an average of about 9,000,000 gallons a year."

"We are working on a thoroughly well conceived scheme of Mr. Cooper's, and I am of opinion that no better one can be devised."

"One of the extra reservoirs in the Tytam Valley will be commenced this year and the other two should be undertaken in 1902-1903. Mr. Crook has prepared some figures to shew what it would mean to install pumping machinery and raise sea water to Caine Road level and store it there in reservoirs if sites for such could be

found. The pith of Mr. Crook's report is contained in paragraph 17. 153,000,000 gallons of fresh water can be stored at such an elevation as to command the City by gravitation at an estimated cost of \$291,000, while to store 50,000,000 gallons of salt water would cost \$390,000."

From the Acting Colonial Secretary to H. E. the Governor:—

"The use of sea water for certain purposes did not escape the attention of Mr. Cooper, and the conclusion he arrived at was 'that the cost of such a project would not compare favourably with these gravitation projects put forward in the preceding pages of his report' and that he was of opinion that 'no such project should be entertained so long as supply of fresh water sufficient for all purposes can be obtained at a reasonable cost by gravitation.'"

"Mr. Cooper's scheme of water supply is being carried out, and I do not think the time will have arrived to seriously consider the additional salt water supply till that scheme shall have been completed."

His Excellency directed the correspondence to be returned to the Sanitary Board, remarking that the water supply has been very fully gone into and there was no necessity for appointing such a committee. His Excellency's remarks bore out the views of the D. P. W., but the fact remains that latrines and urinals are a pressing necessity and the D. P. W. does not offer any suggestions as to the way in which they are to be supplied.

Members minuted as follows:—

Mr. McKie—"I agree with the minute of the D. P. W. marked A, more especially in its reference to watering the streets on the lower levels in a civilized manner, i.e., by proper water carts and not by old women with buckets and ladles."

Dr. Hartigan:—"After reading the D. P. W.'s glowing account of the main and pipe sewers I can only imagine that the smells must be on our own noses, probably a locally raised complaint."

Dr. Clark:—"Mr. Crook tells us what the completion of Mr. Cooper's scheme involves, but the Government is silent on the question as to how much of this is to be carried out in the immediate future. The sooner the scheme is completed the sooner shall we be in a position to discover whether it is possible to fill these reservoirs in a dry season."

Lt.-Col. Ryan, R.A.M.C.:—"I concur with the M.O.H.'s remarks."

The PRESIDENT said that as he was asked to give some further explanation about this he might say that a vote had been taken in this year's estimates for one of these reservoirs at Tytam, or for commencing it, and the cause of delay now was that they were waiting the arrival of a special officer from England who was coming out shortly to reside on the spot. An important work of this sort, miles away from the town, could not be left to the tender mercies of a contractor without a person who had plenty of time to look after it. He had reason to believe that there would be a large vote in the next year's estimate and that one of these reservoirs would be well advanced or completed next year, and that the other two reservoirs in Tytam Valley would be in a position for being commenced. With regard to the remark of the M. O. H., he thought it was doubtful whether the upper reservoirs at Tytam would be full in an exceptionally dry year. In fact it was certain that in such a year as occurred in 1894 they would not fill, because Tytam itself did not fill.

THE PROPOSED EUROPEAN RESERVATION
FOR KOWLOON.

The following letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary to the Secretary of the Board was submitted:—

"With reference to my letter No. 1,140 of the 25th ultimo, I am directed to acquaint you for the information of the Sanitary Board that after giving the matter full consideration the Government does not see its way to make at the present time a reservation at Kowloon for a European district."

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"A very great mistake—again following the old policy of drift."

Lieut.-Col. Ryan minuted:—"I agree with Dr. Hartigan."

Dr. CLARK said that as the mover of the previous resolution he was inclined now

to ask the Board to again address the Government and ask them to re-consider the matter, ignoring altogether their previous recommendation to reserve a certain portion of Kowloon which was outlined in the resolution. He thought that the longer this matter was delayed the greater would be the difficulty to set apart any portion of the new Territory for European dwellings. It was hoped by many residents of this colony that a portion of the New Territory would become at some day or other a residential district for Europeans, and as land was being sold over there, or would shortly be sold, in various places without restrictions, it was time to secure a district for Europeans. It was immaterial to them as a Board perhaps what particular district was chosen. It might be Lychikok, it might be Kowloon Bay, but any way, if some district was set apart once and for all as a European reservation district, then they would be quite sure that no land would be sold there for Chinese dwellings. They had failed to get the district they asked for, namely, that portion of the Peninsula south of Austin Road, and it seemed to him they must get some other portion reserved at once to avoid such complications as those which had arisen already in old British Kowloon. He begged to move that the Board again address the Government with a request that they should re-consider their decision with reference to a European district reservation area to the south of the Kowloon range of hills. It would then rest with the Director of Public Works and some other higher officials of the Government to say which would be the most suitable place; but in any case they would have some place reserved, and perhaps in ten or fifteen years they would see a European colony growing up there, the residents of which would thank that Board for their foresight in having it set apart in that way.

Mr. FUNG WAH CHUEN, in seconding, said rents had gone up in the colony and few houses could be got, and he thought it was time to ask the Government to set aside a portion for Europeans. He was against the last resolution, but he was in favour of this.

Mr. McKIE also supported this resolution, though against the previous one. He added that he thought they made a mistake in indicating in their previous resolution any particular area, and he thought that this resolution would be more likely to be considered.

The PRESIDENT said that before putting the resolution he might say that the letter from the Government did not put off or shelve the question. The Government had great sympathy with the Sanitary Board in this matter, but the difficulties in reserving the particular area mentioned in the previous resolution were greater than had become known to the public. The matter had not been lost sight of. It really happened that questions connected with military reservations which might be shortly settled affected this particular question.

The motion was carried.

THE CHOLERA AT SAIGON AND BANGKOK.

Replies from H.M.S. Consul, Saigon, and the Legation, Bangkok, were submitted. The communication from Bangkok was dated 16th July, and said that official returns for the month were two deaths, for June 10, and about 200 for May. The letter from the British Consul at Saigon (dated 9th July) said—"I really cannot say that there is more cholera here at present than is the case every year at this season. If the number of deaths sensibly increases I shall let you know."

THE RECENT OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE AT ADEN.

A telegram, dated February 26th, reported six cases of plague in isolated quarter, Aden settlement, and a telegram dated 18th July stated, "Government of Bombay wires no case plague reported Aden since 25th June, and Aden free from plague for ten days after recovery of last case on 3rd July."

THE FORTNIGHTLY LIMEWASHING RETURN.

Mr. J. H. Dandy (Chief Inspector of Nuisances), in his fortnightly limewashing return, said:—

"As the limewashing of the city was commenced for the second time this year on July 1st, I have not entered up any work done in the Central and Western districts, as they properly belong to January to June returns, and all work done now is only belated work after prosecution. There have been dur-

ing the last fortnight 50 prosecutions, in 27 of which fines were inflicted to the value of \$250. The notices for the eastern district are coming in an unusually slow manner."

THE PLAGUE AT MACAO.

The deaths at Macao for the week ended July 8th numbered 90 (including nine from plague) and 60 for the following week.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The death rate for the colony for the week ended 14th July was 32.3, against 39.6 for the previous week and 31.1 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the following week was 28.7 against 22.8 for the corresponding week last year.

This was all the business.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

LOCAL ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

H. M. cruiser *Mohawk* arrived here on the 27th ult. having made an unexpectedly rapid passage from the Australian Station and being no less than five days ahead of her time.

The transport *Nevasa* left for the north on the 27th ult. with the Bengal Sappers and Miners and part of the Native Hospital on board.

Two more transports arrived on the 30th ult., viz., the *Islanda* and the *Pentakota*.

The *Islanda* brings from India No. 1 Coolie Corps, with two British officers, six non-commissioned officers and men, 1,077 followers, and five horses; also the 54th Field Hospital, with one British officer, eight N. C. officers and men, 64 followers, and one horse. She left again yesterday for Weihaiwei.

The *Pentakota* brings—1st Madras Pioneers, four British officers, seven native officers, 342 n.c. officers and men 76 followers, four horses, and 84 mules; 39th Field Hospital, with six n.c. officers and men, 56 followers, and six horses. Medical store department, with one British officer and five followers; Special service officers—three British officers and five followers. The officers on board are Major du Boulay, R.A., Captain Cole, 11th Bengal Lancers, Captain Cooper, 1st Sikhs, Captain Hamilton, I.M.S., and Major Johnston, Lieuts. Gordons and Thompson, and Captain Blenkinsopp I.M.S., of the Madras Pioneers Right Wing.

The *Nairung* returned to Hongkong from the north on the 30th ult.

The *Wallaroo*, cruiser, arrived on the 30th from the Australian station. We have already given her figures.

Two more transports arrived from India on the 31st ult., viz., the *Nowshera* from Bombay and the *Urlana* from Calcutta.

The *Nowshera* brings:—1st Goorkhas: six British officers, eight native officers, 357 n.c. Officers and men, 45 followers, and six horses. Bombay Sappers and Miners: four British officers, four native officers, 191 n.c. officers and men, six horses and 18 mules. 66th Field Hospital: one British officer, five n.c. officers and men, 58 followers, and one mule. The British officers are Major Carnegie, Capt. Couper, Grant, Lindsey, Hutchinson and Brodhurst (4th Goorkhas). Lieuts. Boileau, Pridham, Craster and Chaldecott (Bombay Sappers and Miners), Lieut. Groube (No. 1 Section Native Field Hospital).

The *Urlana* brings:—Transport Department: two British officers, seven n.c. officers and men, 58 followers, and one horse. Transport Mule Corps: four n.c. officers and men, 220 followers, three horses, and 405 mules. 39th Field Hospital: one British officer, five n.c. officers and men, 65 followers, one horse, and three mules. Special Service officers: One British officer, three followers, and three mules. Bakery Department: n.c. officers and men; followers, 6. Postal Department: n.c. officers and men 1; followers 2; horses 2; The British officers are Major McIntyre (commanding), Captain Willoughby (Special Service Officer), Lieut. Dees (Divisional Compt. Officer), Lieut. McCoy, I.M.S.

The *Jelunga* arrived at Singapore on the 30th ult. with naval reinforcements for China, and the *Arethusa*, which is coming out to China from the Pacific Station, reached Yokohama. The *Marathon* has left for Taku, and the *Mohawk* has left to bring up refugees from the neighbourhood of Hoihow. The transports *Pentakota*, *Virawa*, *Duke of Portland*, and *Urlana* all left

on the 31st ult. for Weihaiwei. The *Nairang* departed for Bombay.

The *Canning* arrived in the harbour on the 1st inst. with the remaining wing of the 1st Goorkhas (6 British and 8 native officers, 364 men, 45 followers, and 6 horses) the 66th Native Field Hospital (1 British officer, 6 men, 61 followers, and a horse), and details of the Supply Column. The British officers were Col. Rundall, Lieut.-Col. Dams, I. M. S., Capt. Battye, Colomb, and Ryall, Lieuts. Nicolay, and Young. The wing of the Goorkhas will disembark and proceed to Stonecutters to-day.

The *Natiana* with four British and four native officers, 18 men and 108 followers (Ordnance Park), with transport mules, one officer, three N. C. O's and men, 160 followers and 317 mules of the Transport Department, and details of the 39th Field Hospital and a Native General Hospital, and Special Service officer, arrived on the 1st.

The P. & O. steamer *Rome* has left England with seven officers and 235 men Royal Artillery, two officers and eleven men Army Ordnance Corps, 25 Rank and File. R.A.M. Corps and three officers and one N.C.O. for the 1st Chinese Regiment. Her arrival is expected on the 1st September, the troops being transferred to the steamer *Clyde en voyage*. The *Zemanij*, with details of the 7th Bengal Infantry, Sec. 41 Native Field Hospital, 30th Bombay Infantry, and Indian Marine Department, left Calcutta on the 30th ult. She has on board 1,007 men, of whom 721, excluding 179 Followers, belong to the 7th Bengal Infantry. There are also three Press Correspondents on board.

General Creagh, V. C., and staff arrived from home by the *Chusan* on the 2nd inst., together with Captain Spencer, A. O. D., two sergeants and 13 men of the A. O. C., and a colour-sergeant for the Chinese Regiment.

TIENTSIN AFFAIRS.

[FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin 5th July.

Two more naval 12 pdr. guns with their crews arrived here yesterday from the *Terrible*, and have considerably strengthened our position, which is, to say the least of it, a very tight one.

The enemy appears to get strengthened daily, and prepare properly organised attacks on the town, getting to within 200 and 300 yards of our defences. All day long there is a drizzling pour of bullets and a crashing of shells, which, when night falls, cease; having every day left ample traces of the day's deluge both in damage to life and property. We are anxiously awaiting heavier guns, so as to see what effect lyddite will have amongst these Celestial savages. No one ever seems to know what is going to be done, and the tension at times is very great on those waiting for orders that some days never arrive, the men have after being told to "stand by."

If the troops now here were under the direct command of the Admiral, I am sure that Tientsin would not now be at the mercy of Chinese shot and shell. There is naturally a delay where so many authorities have to be consulted and so many various interests to be considered. To ensure making these operations a quick success, there must be a strong united action amongst the allied forces, viz., a good General Staff with absolute power each foreign unit merged into one force with a specific object in view, and all political deferences sunk until Peking is occupied by the allied troops. At present we much resemble the Paris Exhibition, each section running its own department and competing for highest honours.

Yesterday it rained torrents, and the Chinese shelled our positions with eight guns; it was like a thunderstorm—real rain, the bursting of shells making up for the thunder. Our losses were great, especially at the Railway Station, which was occupied by British, French, and Japanese. I saw the marine officer in command of the British to-day, who said the behaviour of his man was admirable under such trying circumstances, the enemy having got within 250 yards of his position. I do not know what class of troops the Japanese fought against during the late war, but it is doubtful if they belonged to the class of Chinese now opposed to us. The shooting of these fel-

lows is excellent and their range perfect. Their shells burst with a fearful report into very small pieces—their shrapnel being neatly timed, seldom failing to burst where it is evident they mean it to. The *Terrible's* men say that things are very much more lively here than in Natal, their casualties already being nearly double to what was out there. Boer shell and rifle fire is put into the shade by these untrained (?) Chinese.

I am sorry to say that Major Morris has gone to Taku, and the men of the R.W.F. are grieved to lose him—dysentery having already claimed him for one of its victims. This regiment is doing some good service as also is the Hongkong Regiment, the fighting they hoped to see having gone far beyond their expectations. They seem proud of this opportunity of distinguishing themselves after so many disappointment abroad. Some Naval guns are going out to-night across the opposite side of the river, where they are to be entrenched for the attack which is expected to come off to-morrow. An attack on the Chinese walled city is expected to-morrow, though it is not definitely settled—the merchants do not like the idea of its being done. All the women and children leave here at noon to-day; they have had some weird experiences since the disturbances began, and the strain is beginning to tell on them.

The sanitary state of the town is wretched, and sickness must soon break out if it is not soon seen to. Barriers of bags filled with rice have been erected in the streets, which stink and create maggots by the million, besides fermenting. The Naval Brigade are unloading timber so as to have the lighters ready for stores, and as 30 days rations for 1,000 of our men has arrived, it looks as if an advance will soon be made. All the wounded who could not be sent down are doing very well, and the troops are generally in the best of health and look none the worse for the wear and tear they are passing through.

Tientsin, 6th July.

On Wednesday last, 4th inst., a part of the British Contingent of Royal Marines, under Captain Mullins, of the *Terrible*, was ordered to reinforce the French and Japanese troops who were holding the Railway Station. Before that it had been held by the Russians, who had a very rough time of it for several days, but by a fresh arrangement it is to be held by the British, French, and Japanese in three sections. Besides Marines, 50 of the Hongkong Regiment under an English officer accompanied the force, which took over the position at 8 a.m. The British held the Engine House, which was protected also by a barricade of railway sleepers. The platform and buildings were occupied by the French, and the buildings by the river held by the Japanese. Things remained quiet till 2 p.m., when a lot of Chinese were discovered moving out cautiously from the native city into a burnt village. It was difficult to find out what was their intentions, so a heavy rifle fire at 1,000 yards was opened on them which soon brought them out in force. They worked themselves under cover till they got quite 250 yards from our position, and took up a post in some mud huts. The firing now became very heavy, and a strong force of Bluejackets, under Commander Granville, R.N., came doubling up to reinforce us, accompanied by a Maxim gun. The Chinese Regiment, under Colonel Bower, also came as supports. The Maxim was placed in position and worked by the Marines. Unfortunately black powder was fired from this gun, which rather upset the plan of playing on the enemy when they retired, as it was quickly discovered by the Chinese Artillery. Seven shells were placed near the gun in less than three minutes, each one bursting, severely wounding the captain of the gun and two others of its small crew. Owing to the turn things had taken, the gun was withdrawn and everyone took cover behind the platform; this was about 4.30 p.m. They now, turned their guns on the station itself, and kept up the fire for half an hour, when the fire ceased and we re-occupied our original positions, the enemy giving us no further trouble for the night. Everyone worked particularly well, no excitement whatever prevailing, and things have been quiet since. The French and Japanese had several casualties during the fighting.

Tientsin, 8th July.

We have had further fighting again to-day, though of a desultory nature. The naval gun-

were moved out to play on the snipers. An able seaman of the *Terrible* had his right arm shattered by a shell, of which a numerous quantity have been fired at us to-day, besides the usual supply of rifle fire.

The Chinese appear to be getting as thick as locusts, and hover around our positions watching for a weak point.

Last night five shells were dropped into the place where the *Centurions* are quartered, killing two and wounding four. This ship has now a total of 173 killed and wounded, about 21 of the former. As will be remembered they formed the strongest British section with the Admiral. Two four-inch guns that fire lyddite arrived this morning, and the artisan ratings here are mounting it under the direction of a Naval Engineer; when complete it should produce some good results. The Admiral is hoping to get some mounted 4.7 guns up shortly, which would give the British a great lead from an artillery stand-point.

Nearly all the Europeans left here on the 5th inst.; they had practically been living underground through the bombardments.

News of each other's doings is difficult to obtain in consequence of having to remain always ready for immediate action.

Tientsin, 12th July.

THE "TERRIBLES" AT WORK.

There is not much to record since my last letter. The British portion of Tientsin is receiving about 400 shells a day. A force composed principally of Japanese has captured three or four of the enemy's guns at the Arsenal, but was unable to hold the Arsenal. Yesterday a *Terrible* 12-pounder and 4 in. gun received about 400 rounds from the Chinese, who had five guns. No one, however, was hit. On the mud-wall there are two more 12-pounders, a 4 in. gun and four 6-pounders.

The Native City is not yet taken. The biggest gun fired at us yesterday was a 4 in. The others varied between 4 in. guns and 12-pounders. The *Terrible* men say that they can see the flash from the guns very distinctly here, much more so than in Natal. The casualties among the *Terrible's* seamen and marines so far are one killed, eight wounded. Howard, the marine butcher, was shot through the heart at the time when the Japanese took the Arsenal, when the *Terribles* were in the reserves. Three wounded men (Barrett, Roper, and Brennan) have been sent down to Weihaiwei Hospital.

HOW THE CHINESE FIGHT.

One of our "handy men" in a letter to a friend gives a graphic description of Chinese rifle-fire, and I take the liberty of transcribing a few words. "In attacking the Chinese," he writes, "the safest people are in the firing line, as you would never get shot there. It is the supports and any one in the rear [who are in danger], as the Chinese don't bring their rifle to the shoulder, but fire from their side, from our ready; and in their trenches they don't show their heads, but merely put their rifles over the trench and fire, and then run like Hell."

SPLENDID BEHAVIOUR OF JAPANESE CAVALRY.

We have only one squadron of Japanese cavalry here, who in the last attack rode through the Chinese troops twice, cutting up about 270 the first time, and about 600 or 700 in all. They only lost four men themselves.

THE NAVAL CONTINGENTS.

To-night our men are mounting a 4.7 gun and the *Terribles* are stationed at their guns—four 12-pounders, one 4.7, six 6-pounders, two 4 in. guns. All the ships' companies have returned to their ships except the *Barfleurs*, *Auroras*, and *Terribles*.

Tientsin, 15th July.

NAVAL REPORT ON CAPTURE OF NATIVE CITY.

The following General Signal was made to the fleet at Taku yesterday:

News received from Tientsin to-night. Attack was made on Native City by 2,000 Japanese, two battalions American infantry and marines, 700 British, 300 French, 50 Austrians on the left 2,600 Russians and two companies of Germans on the right. Russians took forts by railway bridge and 12 guns, none of them large. Attack on both sides failed to enter the city. Casualties not yet accurately known, but Russians have lost over 100, including Artillery Colonel, British over 40, Japanese 57, including Colonel, French 25. Allies retreated from under City Walls at 8 a.m. It was known yesterday

that 1,500 of Yuan Shikai's troops had reinforced Chinese troops.

The following signals were issued to-day:—(1.) 6.45 a.m.—Tientsin city and all the forts have been taken. Japanese entered city first. City is burning. Allied losses 775. Commander Wright better after operation.—(2.) 9.25 a.m., approximate casualties on 13th and 14th July, British 20 killed and wounded, 93, Naval Brigade 8 killed, 35 wounded. R. W. Fusiliers, 5 killed, 20 wounded; Russian 125 killed and wounded; H. K. Troops, 3 killed, 12 wounded; Austrians, 3 wounded; Chinese Regiment, 4 killed, 16 wounded; Japanese, 70 killed, 300 wounded; Americans, 32 killed, 38 wounded; total 767 killed and wounded.

The numbers engaged were as follows:—Japanese 1,600, French 800, Russians 4,000, British 900, Americans 800, Germans 300.

A branch of the Japanese Post Office has been opened temporarily at Taku, where letters are received and forwarded to any place in the Postal Union.

A "TERRIBLE" MAN'S ACCOUNT OF THE FIGHTING AT TIENTSIN.

The following account was obtained from one of the *Terrible* men just returned from the "front" wounded:—

We left Taku on the 22nd June at 1.30 p.m., with one naval 12 pdr., to join the rest of the Tientsin Relief Force. We stopped a few miles up country and entrained some cavalry from the Russian Camp and proceeded to the rail-head, arriving at midnight. Here we bivouacked and unloaded stores in reliefs ready to march at daybreak. The whole of the relief column moved off at 5 a.m., leaving the gun under a strong guard to move on later with the transport. At noon everything was ready and we marched towards Tientsin, arriving there at 10 p.m.—a very tedious march—the town having been entered without much opposition by the Relief Column during the forenoon. At midnight a combined force of the allies moved out and proceeded to the relief of the Admiral, with whose force they joined next morning. Our gun did not accompany the relief column, but was brought into action next morning 25th, inst., and commenced to bombard the Native City. At 11 a.m. the gun was turned on the West Arsenal, and after a few rounds blew up the magazine and set the place on fire, which prevented the big gun from harassing the troops forming the relief and relieved column that must pass by this position—which was passed without trouble in the dark the night previous. The Admiral's force with the relieving column marched into Tientsin next morning at 8 a.m., bringing with them 190 wounded.

THE NAVAL GUN.

Next morning (25th) the Naval gun—as yet the only one here was sent to the Russian Camp to bombard the East Arsenal, assisted by a Russian gun, the rest being out of action owing to lack of ammunition. The Russian infantry numbering about 1,000 attacked the place, but were repulsed with trifling loss. The gun was left with the Russians for the night and its crew returned to their quarters. Next morning (26th) the allied troops make a second attack covered by the two guns. The attack commenced at 10 a.m., the Russians in the fighting line, Japanese as supports, the British in reserve on the right flank, the Germans, French, and other nationalities forming the left flank.

LIVELY ACTIONS.

A quantity of nitro-glycerine was exploded, which caused several minor explosions, after which the Arsenal was entered and everything inside destroyed. Many casualties occurred amongst the allies, and it was during this attack that two wounded marines were captured, decapitated and otherwise mutilated. By noon the troops returned to their quarters. Everything remained quiet till midnight, when the troops again went out and captured a Chinese battery of four guns that had been firing at the tugs and boats on the river. There was no loss here, as the enemy were completely taken by surprise. For two days nothing of importance occurred except artillery duelling, till the 29th, when the troops again moved out at midnight to clear the villages to the West. At daybreak the Japanese cavalry suddenly came upon 250 Boxers on the open; they charged them several times and annihilated everyone, afterwards capturing four pom-

pon guns in the Christian Village. A general advance was made on the West Arsenal, which was observed to be full of Chinese troops with cavalry. The Japanese led the attack, and waded through the river; and after a faint resistance the Japanese captured the place and hoisted their flag. The rest of the troops crossed by the bridge. The guns found there were turned on the Chinese and inflicted great loss on them. The troops again advanced and inflicted great loss on the enemy, who had taken cover in the village near the Native City. As there were not sufficient troops available to hold these positions, a general retirement was ordered under cover of the Naval guns, which had come up, assisted by the Chinese Regiment (Weihaiwei) and American troops, both of which had displayed great gallantry during the action.

ATTACK AND COUNTER-ATTACK.

The losses amongst the troops engaged was very severe, especially with the Russians. About noon the Chinese mounted six small guns in the burnt-out village between Tientsin and the Native City, and commenced shelling our gun which was in position on the mud wall, but did no damage. They then cut the mud wall, by the West Arsenal with a view to flooding us out, which had the effect of putting water on each side of us. The Japanese moved out with the object of taking these guns, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers having built a wooden bridge across the water to take them across, which was washed away with the rise of the tide. The Japanese threw over another bridge, but the attack did not succeed. The same night at midnight the enemy made an unsuccessful attempt to capture the Naval guns, actually getting to within 250 yards before they were discovered by the outposts. A terrific rifle fire was poured into them by the guns' crews, which caused them to make a hasty retreat—the affair was a very narrow squeak. Next morning it was seen that the Chinese had again occupied the West Arsenal; having built another bridge where the original one had been destroyed the previous day, and troops were constantly seen massing inside it. They also had fixed a heavy gun into position between the Arsenal and the Native City, and commenced shelling the town and guns. The Naval 12-pdr. was put to silence this gun, which it accomplished the 4th round.

UNDER HOT FIRE.

Our gun was now sent to the Railway Station, where it was heavily attacked with rifle fire, and it was taken from here to the Russian Bund and commenced shelling the Native City. The enemy now mounted more guns on the bridge near the railway and shelled the gun, which was again removed back to the Railway Station under a heavy fire.

A position was taken up near the water-tower and four rounds were fired at the city, when two shells burst right under the gun, our position and range again being discovered. The gun was now taken back under cover, having received close attention from the enemy for some hours. The shelling here was so severe that the troops occupying the Station left and retired on the town. A company of Japanese were afterwards sent back, which was fortunate for us, as the enemy had got as close as 300 yards to our position, and they, together with some of our own marines, kept the enemy back, and we retired with the gun across the pontoon. Even here we received special attention, as the pontoon got shot away before we were over and the gun was dragged through the river. Eventually, we reached the Russian guard, who cheered the gun's crew most enthusiastically, as it had got rumoured we had lost our gun and had most of us been killed—but marvellous to say, only one casualty occurred with the gun's crew. Our luck seems to be with us here as in South Africa, and we consider ourselves "Terribly" lucky. Next day the gun was again placed on the mud wall in its former position and commenced shelling the native city. The Marines re-occupied the Station and were heavily attacked at midnight. The *Barfleur's* naval brigade were sent to reinforce them and behaved in a most plucky manner, driving the enemy off with great loss, our casualties being very small considering the severe fire we were under. Nothing of much note occurred after this except the usual daily shelling which caused many casualties, until the night of the 13th, when the Allied forces made an attack on the Native City, which failed, the Chinese evidently being prepared for it.

TECHACHERY DISCOVERED.

At daybreak on the 14th the city was shelled by every available gun. The city was set on fire in several places, the British guns being principally directed on the Watch Tower and large pagodas. The Tower was set on fire, which prevented important observations being made from that high structure. Our firing ceased in the evening and preparations made for a grand attack at night. During the evening some spies—three European and two Chinese—were caught making flashing signals to the enemy from a house. Two blue-jackets of the *Terrible*, a R.W.F. and a Russian, who were sentries, discovered them red-handed, and together they broke into the house, instantly killing the two Chinese, and making the Europeans prisoners, who are now awaiting trial.

THE CAPTURE OF THE CITY.

Some strong reinforcements arrived during the evening from Taku, and the attack commenced at 2 a.m.—the city this time being captured. During the attack heavy artillery played on the city, the British using two 4 inch and one 4.7, firing lyddite, and 4 12-pounders, worked by the *Terrible*, men; the rest of the Naval Brigade being with the British contingent. Trenches had been dug outside the city walls, which had been occupied by the Japanese in the dark who were leading, supported by the Naval Brigade. R.W.F., Chinese Regiment, and other British and American troops. A mistake which told heavily on the Navals occurred owing to the darkness. The Chinese apparently were leaving positions in the burnt villages and were entering the city gates; and it was thought that they were the Japanese who had forced an entrance. The Naval Brigade advanced, leading the supports to follow, as they thought, the Japanese, when they were received with a heavy rifle fire, which brought down nearly the whole of the *Barfleur* company. The Japanese, seeing the mistake, took up their position as the storming line and quickly forced an entrance into the city, followed quickly by the supports. Numerous guns were captured inside the city, the Russians also capturing 12 guns outside. The whole affair was well planned and neatly executed, although the losses on the 13th and 14th were very severe.

LYDDITE AND LOOT.

Lyddite had wrought fearful havoc inside the town. At one large Pagoda 300 dead Chinese were found, and several groups of dead were laying where it was seen these shells had burst. The Japanese again thoughtfully turned the captured guns on the flying enemy and assisted them to move quickly.

A large quantity of loot was found, the British capturing a quantity of bar-silver, which has been sent on board the *Centurion* to Taku. The city itself is now occupied by the Japanese, and it is anticipated that a period of quietness will now follow the hard fighting that has made Tientsin an historical town in Chinese history. The Naval Brigade has added further lustre to their already honoured position in the Empire's forces, and the British Admiral has personally told us that the Brigade's work has provoked the admiration of our foreign comrades, who have been greatly impressed with our shooting.

WEIHAIWEI.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Weihaiwei, 24th July.

Admiral Sir E. H. Seymour arrived here this morning in the *Centurion* and is leaving again at 7 p.m. this evening for Shanghai. The *Alacrity* will accompany the *Centurion*. It is said she will take one of the *Terrible's* guns in case of need. A fresh arrival to-day from Tientsin reports that the town is quiet and there are no signs of the enemy. All the naval brigade has returned with the exception of the *Terribles*, who remain to work the guns. Troops are arriving at Tientsin daily, my informant said. All transports put into Weihaiwei and wait orders at the base here before proceeding to Taku. All the wounded here (there are about 160) are doing well, and a large number are already convalescent. I have it on good authority that a travelling mounting for a 4.7 gun is being prepared here with all despatch, and it is hoped that it will be ready when the next move is made.

THE WOUNDED AT WEIHAIWEI.

A naval correspondent writing from Weihaiwei on the 21st July, states that most of the Naval Government buildings at Weihaiwei are now being converted into hospitals. The number of patients is 120 men and 5 officers. Lieut. Columb, of the *Endymion*, is doing well, and when the buildings are completed there will be accommodation for 200 patients.

The Hotel on the mainland, recently built by the Weihaiwei Land Investment and Building Co., is to be used as a military hospital. Temporary accommodation has been prepared for refugees. Among the wounded a peculiar case is that of Sergeant Roper, R.M.L.I., of the *Terrible*. He was shot through the brain, in one side and out of the other, and he is doing very well. He now smokes his pipe. A Röntgen Ray apparatus arrived, but with no instructions how to put it in working order. Captain Scott came to the rescue and the machine is now working well.

Admiral Bruce arrived in the *Alacrity* on the 19th July, and inspected the hospital and ordered the pier to be taken in hand. He returned to Taku on the 22nd.

Major Bruce, of the 1st Chinese Regiment, has arrived at Weihaiwei, severely wounded.

On the 14th July Fleet Surgeon T. M. Sibbald, of H.M.S. *Centurion*, was buried at Weihaiwei.

NEWCHWANG.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Newchang, 13th July.

Vessels in port are: *Tamsui*, *Sullberg*, *Pronto*, *Else*, Russian gunboats *Otavany*, *Grenjaschy*, torpedo destroyer No 2, and Japanese gunboat *Kinchow*.

Since the 5th inst., I regret to say, through fear, about 50 Southern merchants have left, and also all the Japanese firms, including the Yokohama Specie Bank. We do not anticipate trouble in the port, more especially as we have three gunboats; for during the Japanese war there were over 60,000 Honan braves, and through the protection of H.M.S. *Firebrand* and U.S. *Petrel*, they were afraid to rise. I am glad to report the safe return of the relief party that went to the rescue of the Danish missionaries, who, on their arrival at Haue Juen, were informed by the magistrate that he had sent an escort with the mission 100 li on the road to Kaichow.

The various reports, together with alarms, so far have originated from Russian sources, and have proved unfounded. Report has it that Haiching city has been burnt to the ground by the Chinese.

As far as we can make out the Russians are proceeding as quickly as possible from Port Arthur to their junction Tashi Chiao, sending detachments of artillery and cavalry in the direction of Liau-tung, in fact they already have an advance guard of 400 strong near Liau-tung, and when their number is reached they will no doubt attack the 5,000 Chinese soldiers at Liau-tung. Proceeding thence to Moukden, we can work at their movements from many different points of view, and we are under the impression that the Russian flag will be hoisted sooner than people anticipate.

As soon as the bean crops are released at Tung Ghian Tsze, being delayed at present for want of water, trade will go along as previously.

THE ITALIAN CONSUL'S ANSWER FROM CANTON.

Chevalier Volpicelli, the Italian Consul, has received an answer to his request to the Acting Viceroy at Canton to transmit a telegram to the Italian Minister at Peking (in which the Minister is asked to mention some facts known to himself and Chevalier Volpicelli), this answer being that the Acting Viceroy cannot do so. Yuan Shikai, the Viceroy says, has only received his information from Peking by secret messengers; owing to the distance of Canton from the Capital he (the Acting Viceroy) cannot employ this means of communication. He repeats his assurances, however, that the Italian Minister is still alive and safe. As there was a rumour current in the Colony last night that Chevalier Volpicelli had received an important communication with regard to the safety of the survivors at Peking, it is as well to add that he informs us that he has received no such communication.

CASUALTIES OF THE ROYAL
WELSH FUSILIERS.

A list of casualties is given below of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers that occurred during the battles at Tientsin on the 13th and 14th inst.

19 Wounded, 5 killed, on the 13th inst., Tientsin.

4562 Cpl. Hammer, I., A. Co., arm blown off by bursting shell.

3472 Pte. Radford, C., A. Co., both shoulders, bursting shell.

5122 Pte. Tindall, C., A. Co., ribs and legs, bursting shell.

4428 Pte. Williams, F., A. Co., arm, bursting shell.

4779 Dr. O'Brien, W., A. C., leg and groin, bursting shell.

5161 Pte. Greaves, I., A. Co., seat, bursting shell.

4190 Pte. Kenny, E., A. Co., bullet wound, stomach (slight).

4479 Pte. Tomlinson, I. E., bullet wound chest, killed.

3757 Cpl. Wilson, G., C. bullet wound right leg.

5157 Pte. Evans, I., E. bullet left arm.

5485 Pte. Richards, I., C. bullet wound right shoulder.

4728 Mansfield, M. E. Co., bullet wound, head, killed.

4617 Crew, W. & E. Co., bullet wound, head, killed.

4880 Thomas, I. & E. Co., bullet wound, heart, killed.

4342 Scott, H. & E. Co., bullet wound, leg, killed.

4908 L. Corps Burke, J. E. Co., bullet wound side (slight).

3469 Pte. Owens, T. E. Co., right arm (severe).

4821 Pte. Taylor, I. E. Co., leg (slight).

3217 Sgt. Deane, T. E. Co., head (slight).

4040 L. Sgt. Pearce, S. E. Co., right arm and body (severe).

4348 Cpl. Kellock, D. E. Co., back (slight).

4779 Pte. Bonner, F. E. Co., arm, side, leg (severe).

4056 Pte. Pitt, T. E. Co., right arm, left breast, leg.

5272 Pte. Joyce, G. E. Co., foot (slight).

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR AND THE
FRENCH NAVY.

The following are the Order of the Day addressed by Admiral Seymour to Admiral Courrejolles of the French navy, and that of Captain de Marolles, communicating to his men Admiral Seymour's appreciation:—

"Tientsin, 17th June.

"The late expedition of the allied naval forces with the aim of reaching Peking and helping our respective Legations having now come to a close, in my position as the Senior Naval Officer of the forces of the various nations engaged, I have the honour to address your Excellency with the view of expressing my very high opinion of:—

1.—The valour and ready dash of Captain de Marolles and of all those placed under his orders, in their co-operation and in the assistance I received from them.

2.—The energy and zeal displayed without a single flaw in face of the most varied circumstances by the French officers and sailors, whose courage did honour to their brilliant traditions, were such that I cannot find words to praise them sufficiently.

Although it may seem to be beyond my duty to commemorate the conduct of an officer who has not been put under my command, I cannot close this letter, your Excellency, without expressing the value I attach to the work and assistance of Captain de Marolles of the *D'Entrecasteaux* and all his subordinates, and without stating that in the different engagements in which they took part with us in a manner worthy of the high traditions of the Great National French Navy they showed themselves to be what I was sure I should find them. Allow me the pleasure of insisting again on this subject.

"(Signed) SEYMOUR."

"The chief commander is proud, as will be all the men of the column, of a testimony of such high authority accorded by an Admiral of whom they have constantly admired the bravery, notably when he marched in the midst of them to the assault of the villages north of Peking,

in comparing their dash to that of the old French Infantry.

"Since the return of the column, the chief commander has learnt what the officers and men who remained at Tientsin have done. He has seen for himself in the last few days, that all have displayed the same vigour and the same devotion to their country. He knows that in the dangers to come he can count upon all to maintain before the foreigners who surround us the renown of our Navy and the honour of the French flag.

"Tientsin, 5th July, 1900.

"(Signed) de Marolles."

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR AND THE
ITALIAN NAVY.

Admiral Seymour has addressed the following letter to the senior Italian Naval officer at Taku, in recognition of the gallantry of the Italian sailors taking part in the attempted march to Peking:—

Tientsin, 27th June

Sir,—The late allied Naval Expedition for the attempt to reach Peking and succour our respective Legations in that city having now terminated, I have the honour, as the senior naval officer of the various National forces engaged therein, to address you on that subject.

First, officially to thank you for sending the officers and men belonging to the Italian Squadron in company with those of her Majesty's the Queen of England to act in concert with them.

Secondly, to express to you my highest sense of 1. The valuable, cheerful and constant co-operation and assistance I received from Lieutenant Sirainni and all others under his command,

2. The unfailing energy and seal displayed under somewhat trying circumstances by his Majesty's officers and men, whose courage was worthy of their high traditions and requires no words of mine to describe.

Thirdly, to assure you of my sincere belief and hope that the above expedition, though both small and not of long duration, will help to maintain between our respective nations that mutual good feeling and respect which happily now exists between our Sovereigns and which, especially in China, is now so desirable in all the best interests of civilisation and advancement.

Permit me, Sir, to express the pleasure I have felt in co-operating with the officers and men belonging to His Majesty's Royal Navy and allow me to add my tribute to the energy and readiness they have shown throughout the Expedition.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

E. H. SEYMOUR,
Vice-Admiral.

Capitano di Frigate *Casella*,
Senior Italian Naval Officer,
Taku.

FURTHER REINFORCEMENTS FOR
CHINA.

THE CAVALRY BRIGADE.

The following dates are fixed for the sailing of the Cavalry Brigade for China:—

August 4th—*Scindia* and *Nurani*, with Brigade Staff and two squadrons 16th Bengal Lancers.

August 5th—*Rewa* and *Fultala*, with two squadrons 16th Bengal Lancers.

August 6th—*Upada* and *Ula*, with two squadrons 3rd Bombay Cavalry.

August 9th—*Fuzilka* and *Lavada*, with two squadrons 3rd Bombay Cavalry.

August 11th—*Ujina*, with "B" Battery Royal Horse Artillery.

Remarkable success has so far attended the transport of horses by the B. I. S. N. Co.'s ships, the maximum number of casualties on the voyage up having been six, although this is the monsoon season and the horses, moreover, have started after a fatiguing railway journey.

THE SECOND DIVISION.

Simla telegrams of the 13th and 14th ult. state:—It is now announced that arrangements are being made to prepare a Second Division for service in China if required. Each Brigade will probably consist of two British and two Native Battalions with four Field Batteries and a Pioneer Regiment as Divisional troops.—The following have been detailed for the Second

Division for China. The Black Watch, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Shropshire Light Infantry, the Scottish Rifles, the 20th Punjab Infantry and the 6th Bengal Infantry. The others will be announced later.—The following Batteries, Royal Field Artillery, are warned for the Second China Division. The 45th from Barrackpore, the 48th from St. Thomas Mount, and the 52nd from Jubbulpore. The 4th Bombay Cavalry from Sirur relieves the 3rd Bombay Cavalry at Meerabad when the Cavalry Brigade leaves for China.

A telegram of the 16th ult. says:—No orders to mobilize the Second China Division have yet issued, but the Staffs are being nominated and preparations made in case of need. The Brigades of the Second China Division are as follows:—Third Brigade: 2nd Royal Inniskilling, 1st Black Watch, 6th Bengal Infantry and a Native regiment not yet selected. Fourth Brigade: 1st Scottish Rifles, 1st Shropshire Light Infantry, 20th Punjab Infantry, and a Native regiment not yet selected.

Another despatch of the same date says:—The 34th Pioneers have been nominated for the Second China Division. The 45th Field Battery joins the 1st Division to complete its Brigade Division Artillery. The 48th and 52nd Field Batteries will form the Brigade Division Artillery of the Second Division.

Another of the 17th ult., states:—Owing to the appearance of cholera at Meer Meer the wing of the Royal Inniskilling will be moved to Umballa, so that in the event of the regiment being required to go to China it may escape infection. A wing of the Bedfords from Thobha replaces the Inniskillings at Meer Meer.

GENERAL OUTPORT NEWS.

AFFAIRS AT HOIHOW.

In consequence of the threatening state of affairs in Hainan several Europeans arrived from the Island last week. Several Europeans were left behind in Hoihow and further inland, but we expressed the hope that the *Clara*, which arrived from Hoihow on Friday night, would bring news that after all no trouble had arisen. We are glad to say that up to the *Clara* leaving Hoihow all was quiet, and the prospects more reassuring.

STUDENTS AT WUCHOW.

About 1,000 students from up country are at present at Wuchow. They purposed proceeding to Peking for the examinations, but are prevented from doing so by the trouble up North.

PAKHOI.

A private letter which has just arrived from Pakhoi reports that the place is perfectly quiet and that the foreign residents anticipate no trouble.

KASHING.

The *Mercury* correspondent writes on the 24th ult.:—Strong proclamations by Governor, Prefect and Magistrates have had their proper effect. Business has been hindered but is improving. Rice-crop prospects very good. Native Christians at outstations had been in hiding, but now seem reassured. The fall of Tientsin has impressed the Chinese here with the vigor and severity of the Powers.

FROM SHANGHAI PAPERS.

The following letter of the *N.-C. Daily News* special correspondent at Tientsin takes up the story of the siege at the point where our own account ceases. This correspondent writes on the 15th ult.:—

THE END OF THE SIEGE.

The Russians in the approach from the N.E. were greatly delayed, on Friday and Saturday, by the appearance of a large body of men, two or three miles away to their west and north, apparently fixing up field-batteries. A large body was immediately detached to attend to this, and hence the delay in reaching the Shui-szeing, or fort near the Viceroy's yamen. We fully expected this would fall to the Russians, but news has come that the enterprising Japanese crossed the Grand Canal from their part of the walled city, and rushed it, capturing all the guns. We shall now, therefore, be free from shell, and may consider the siege at an end, unless the unexpected happens.

The Chinese are in full retreat towards Peking, and as a beaten Chinese army is deliquescent, we may imagine it will be much less when

it reaches the capital. The Viceroy Yü Lu fled the yamen on the twelfth, and General Nieh is said to have committed suicide; a bit of news more inherently probable than it is authenticated. Ma is said still to be with his men the latter fairly intact.

There can at last be no doubt that the events of this week have, at least, profoundly affected the Chinese; the attitude of the folk in the city is one of extreme obsequiousness, and Boxers will fare badly. It is equally certain, from universal testimony, that this day four weeks they reckoned us doomed to a man. Their opinions were based more on the vapourings and confidence of the Boxers than on any rational consideration of the evidence.

INTERNATIONAL COURTESIES.

International courtesies are the order of the day. When one force takes guns it distributes them *con amore*. We began this at Taku with the destroyers. I saw yesterday two field-pieces on the Bund, addressed to the captains of the *Orlando* and *Aurora*. Colonel Luscum, of the U.S. Ninth, had an impressive funeral last night, and so had Captain Lloyd, of the Marines, and Captain Ollivant, of the First Chinese. The latter, after two journeys to carry off American wounded, under a terrific fire, met his death in a heroic attempt to take up ammunition to our cousins. The two Chinese (1st Chinese) and the mule were all at the same time, shot dead. Had this incident occurred under the eyes of a general officer, it would have been a Victoria Cross affair. The Shantung men, be it noted, have shown the greatest courage, both active and passive, and have amply proved that with good leaders there is the stuff for a fine soldier in the Chinese.

TWO KINDS OF HEAT.

The heat is appalling, ranging from 92 to 100, deg. and often topping the century. Strange to say, there are, so far, few cases of heat apoplexy. The gallant U. S. Ninth have a fearful casualty list, between 15 or 16 per cent. and assert that they now know what hot fire and hot climate mean—this, too, after a long spell in the Philippines. The brave lads got into a terrible position under some misapprehension, though there is some doubt as to who blundered. They were advancing in close column when the hail of bullets smote them.

AFTER THE SIEGE.

The *Shanghai Mercury's* correspondent gives the following account of the state of Tientsin, after the enemy's retirement, in a despatch dated the 19th ult.:

The previous estimates of the number of the enemy in the vicinity appear to have been exaggerated. The Russians are in occupation of the Hsiku Armoury, portions of which are still undestroyed. Ten guns and quantities of ammunition and rifles have been found intact.

ENEMY RETIRING.

Two thousand of the enemy, with a few hundred cavalry, hold the position at Peitsang, apparently acting as a rear guard of the remainder of the besieging army, which is believed to have moved off to the northward.

General Nieh is said to have been wounded in the leg and the arm during the engagement of the 9th. He was discovered by the villagers, but subsequently committed suicide.

SOLDIER TURNCOATS.

Large numbers of the soldiers stationed in Tientsin City took advantage of the retreat from the city to desert. Many of these got rid of their uniforms, adopting civilian clothes, participated with the others in the general looting of the place, afterwards joining the ranks of the coolies allowed to work in the settlements.

Yesterday an Imperial spy was discovered in a ricksha in full uniform, which was covered over with ordinary clothes.

THE CONDITION OF THE CITY.

The British, Russian and Japanese Commissioners who are dealing with Tientsin City propose to hold out every encouragement to the peaceful citizens to return. At least two hundred thousand poor remain in the suburbs of the city. It is particularly the merchants and business classes which have entirely disappeared. The city will be regularly policed, probably by the Japanese, and other measures are being adopted for the improvement of the general conditions. The fire has destroyed a large por-

tion of the buildings inside the walls, but the suburbs escaped without serious damage.

FEAR OF FAMINE.

There is a prospective difficulty before the allies to provide against famine, which is certain. The people are virtually in the hands of the allied forces, as the crops in Chihli are a total failure. The people are in a desperate condition, and the gravity of the position is added to by the number of poor attracted here from other places in the province, who are also being succoured. The gravity is increased by the non-arrival of the annual rice supplies from the south. Suitable foodstuffs will be unobtainable unless immediate provision is made for importing them.

THE RAILWAY.

On the Taku Railway the Russians are employing the staff previously engaged in the work there.

DAMAGE IN THE SETTLEMENT.

In the settlement all is now quiet, but the removal of the barricades and shelters displays the extent of the damage done by the shell fire, which is worse than was thought. The heat is intense.

The Russians are now in possession of six 15 centimetre mortars, which have just arrived.

THE JAPANESE COMMANDER.

The Japanese troops are impatient for the forward movement. General Fukushima's pertinacity and aggressiveness were largely responsible for the quick downfall of the City. His great ability is generally acknowledged and commended, while his intimate knowledge of Chinese tactics is invaluable, as has been demonstrated during every engagement since he arrived here.

British and other reinforcements are arriving daily. On the 20th we expect the arrival of Lieut.-General Yamaguchi.

SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' CHINA RELIEF FUND.

Weihaiwei, 20th July, 1900.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."

SIR, Having spent ten days in a cellar under the Gordon Hall at Tientsin, and endured all the inconveniences attendant on a severe bombardment, my thoughts naturally turn to the widows and dependent relations of the seamen and marines of the British Navy who lost their lives in defending us and in extricating us from our deplorable condition. These widows and dependent relatives will want pecuniary aid, as also will the many young seamen and marines who, from the terrible nature of their wounds, may be incapacitated from earning a livelihood, and have nothing to live on except a small Admiralty pittance. A walk through the hospital here painfully impresses upon one the number of those who will be in this condition. Under these circumstances I venture to suggest that a subscription be started for the widows or dependent relatives of the British Seamen and Marines who have lost, or may lose, their lives, in this China War; and that part of the subscription raised be given to such seamen and marines who may be either from disease or wounds incapacitated. If this fund be started I have promises of subscriptions here.—Yours etc.,

FRANCES E. SCOTT.

[Our correspondent asks for subscriptions only for sailors and marines, but as there are now many British soldiers taking part in the operations, including the detachment of the 2nd Batt. Welsh Fusiliers, we have taken the liberty of including the soldiers. Subscriptions will be duly acknowledged in our columns, and subscriptions should be addressed "Manager, Hongkong Daily Press, Sailors and Soldiers' China Relief Fund."]

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REQUIEM MASS FOR THE LATE KING OF ITALY.

The dastardly act which has resulted in the death of King Humbert of Italy has aroused the most wide-spread indignation and general expressions of sympathy. Special interest was attached to the Solemn Requiem High Mass at the Roman Catholic Cathedral on the 1st inst.

The church was specially draped in black for the occasion, while the Italian flag was very prominent, one being at the principal entrance, another before the main altar, and a third draping the catafalque. The latter was covered with beautiful floral tributes and was guarded by Capt. Negri, Comdr. Massardi, Flag-Lieut. Cuturi, at the head, and six other Italian naval officers at the sides, Giovannini, Denti, di Sambuy, Tomadelli, Mattina, and della Corte.

Among those present were H. E. the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.) and Viscount Saurdale, Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., and the Hon. Captain Trefusis and Col. The O'Gorman, the various consular bodies, a good number of naval and military officers, the Italian, French, and Spanish clergy in the colony, the Italian Sisters of Charity, and many residents in the colony. Consul and Madame Volpicelli attended, the Consul, in full uniform, greeting the different arrivals at the principal entrance to the church, assisted by the Italian officers di Giura and Baccari and by members of the Italian community, Signori Badolo, Marcenaro and the brothers Musso, sons of the late Consul, Mrs. Musso, widow of the latter, and Mr. L. A. Levy, were also present.

The chief mourners were the Italian Consul and Rear-Admiral Count Candiani. At 10 o'clock H. E. the Governor arrived, and Chevalier Volpicelli accompanied him to his seat, with the officers, members of the Italian community, and the company of honour, which was composed of the following officers, Biancheri, Bardesona, Accame, Fumagalli and Belleguole.

The ceremony lasted for one hour and was, in the absence of Monsignor Piazzoli, the head of the Italian mission here, celebrated by Monsignor Excoffier, vicar apostolic of the mission of Yunnan, assisted by the Italian clergy of the mission here.

Altogether some 100 men from the Italian cruiser *Fieramosca* were present, with the band, which played several appropriate pieces of music in a manner which evoked the highest eulogiums. At the end of the service Chevalier Volpicelli and Admiral Candiani accompanied H. E. the Governor to his chair. The Italian Consul then remained at the door, thanking all the representatives as they passed out.

OUR NEW Q.C.'S.

COMPLIMENTARY OBSERVATIONS AT THE SUPREME COURT.

The gentlemen belonging to the legal profession in Hongkong attended in full force at the Supreme Court on the 1st inst, at noon, when the Chief Justice (Sir John Carrington, M.G.) and the Acting Puisne Judge (the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith) addressed a few complimentary observations to our new Q.C.'s.—the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Attorney-General) and Mr. H. E. Pollock, on their promotion to the silk gown.

The CHIEF JUSTICE said—Mr. Attorney-General, Mr. Pollock: I saw in the last issue of the *Gazette* an intimation that Her Majesty has been pleased to have you appointed on her Counsel for the colony of Hongkong. We have here no inner and outer bar, and the court is, therefore, unable to call you within the inner bar, but I thought it proper that there should be a formal reception of you in your new dignity. I congratulate both of you gentlemen very cordially on the honour which has been conferred upon you in recognition of honourable and successful careers, and also in recognition of good service rendered to the Crown and to the people of this colony, and in your case, Mr. Attorney-General, I believe, also to other colonies. If you have your letters patent of appointment I will direct that they be recorded in the court. I feel sure I express the sense of the people of this colony when I say that the honour conferred upon you is entirely well deserved.

The ACTING PUISNE JUDGE—Mr. Attorney and Mr. Pollock: I wish to add my congratula-

tions to those of the Chief Justice upon the distinction that has been conferred upon you. When I was in the administrative branch of the Civil Service of this colony I was privileged to see the work done by you both as legal advisers to this Government. You were skilful, wise, and loyal councillors. The present honour not only emphasises the position which you hold at the Bar of this court but also indicates to some extent, I venture to say, Her Majesty's appreciation of the counsel which from time to time you have tendered to her representatives in the colony.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said—Allow me to express my thanks to your Lordship for the kind expressions to which you have given utterance from that Bench. I venture to think the Supreme Court of Hongkong is a Court in which suitors are sure to find a patient, a painstaking, an absolutely impartial, and a most conscientious investigation of their cases by a Judge or Judges of ripe experience learning and ability. I have had the honour of being Her Majesty's Attorney-General in this Colony for more than ten years. I have seen the Bench where Your Lordship now sits occupied by Sir James Russell and by Sir Fielding Clarke, your Lordship's more immediate predecessors. With them, as with Your Lordship, I have always felt that the one desire has been the absolutely impartial administration of justice. It has always, therefore, been a pleasure to me to appear in this Court, for I have felt sure of kind and courteous treatment by the Bench and of a thorough investigation of the cases it has been my duty to bring before the Court. I believe that feeling to be shared not only by every member of the Bar and of the legal profession but by the public generally. I, therefore, esteem it an honour to have been appointed one of Her Majesty's Counsel of Her Supreme Court of Hongkong.

Mr. POLLOCK—My Lords, I have to thank your lordships very much for the kind words which you have used concerning me.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, to the Acting Registrar, (Mr. J. W. Jones)—Mr. Registrar, let the letters patent be duly recorded.

THE NEW VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS

HAPPY VALLEY CHOSEN.

The following appears in the General Orders of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps:—"It is hereby notified for the information of all ranks that, as the result of the inquiry on the matter of the site of the new Headquarters, by far the larger body of opinion among the members of the Corps was in favour of the site on the Happy Valley. The accommodation required at the new Headquarters has been settled at a meeting of the Staff and Commanding Officers of Units, and, in accordance with instructions received from the Government, the Commandant is in communication with the Director of Public Works on the subject."

A HONGKONG CHINAMAN AND THE BOXERS.

Among the many persons who have taken refuge in Hongkong in consequence of the trouble up north is Dr. Chung, a Hongkong Chinaman, who is staying for the time being at Applichau. Dr. Chung is a native of Stanley. He was educated at Queen's College, and 16 years ago went up to Tientsin, where he has been in the employ of the Imperial Maritime Customs as a medical man. He was present at the bombardment of the Taku forts and also at the outbreak of the trouble in Tientsin. It became unsafe for anyone wearing a queue to be seen in Tientsin. Hence Dr. Chung came down here for safety. He purposes securing his papers as a British subject, cutting off his queue and adopting European dress, and then returning to Tientsin. He declares that the Russian soldiers are perpetrating all sorts of atrocities in Tientsin, killing the men and raping and then killing the women. On one occasion some Russians got hold of three Chinese women and tied them up in a room, but some Japanese who appeared on the scene set them free. He says the Japanese are civilised in comparison with the Russians.

In the course of a conversation which one of our representatives had with him on the 30th ult. Dr. Chung gave interesting particulars as to the Boxers. He said:—

"When any one joins the Boxers he puts pieces of red cloth round his head, stomach, and legs, and dons two shoulder-straps, on which are characters which mean 'Protect China and kill the foreigners.'"

"The Boxers include not only boys of from 12 to 15, but girls of the same age, and they form different branches. The branch to which the girls belong is known as the Hing Tong Chin, or 'Red Lantern Shines.' They carry about with them red lanterns, and they profess that they have only to throw the lanterns up into the air and they will alight on any house, whether near or far, which they wish to set on fire. The boys' branch is called the I Wo Tun."

"On a man joining the Boxers he commences to bow to the south-east and say a prayer daily. When he has done this about 100 times he becomes possessed of the power to hypnotise himself at the right moment, any time he likes. He makes a bow to the south-east, says a prayer, and next begins to shiver, and he can then take up a sword and play with it. It is usual for them to hypnotise themselves before commencing to fight."

Our representative ventured to doubt the power of the Boxers to hypnotise themselves, but Dr. Chung protested. "Yes, truly, they can do so." He added: "Most of them are between 12 and 16 or 18 years of age and are farmers and farmers' children. There has not been sufficient rain for the last two years and that is why they have joined the Boxers and set out to kill the foreigners."

HONGKONG SCHOOLS IN 1899.

The Report of the Inspector of Schools for 1899 is published in the *Gazette*. We make the following extracts:—

A reduction in the number of Government Schools was commenced in the year 1892. In that year there were 6 English and 28 Chinese Schools compared with 5 English and 7 Chinese in 1899. The number cannot be reduced any further at present unless the school at Pokfulam, which last year had an average attendance of only 11 scholars, should be closed. I am loth to recommend the closing of an old school; but unless there should appear to be a prospect of an increase to the Chinese population in the neighbourhood, this school ought not to be kept up. Of the 22 schools closed during the last seven years 11 have been replaced by Grant-in-Aid Schools. At one time or another seven other Grant-in-Aid Schools were started with the intention of replacing Government Schools, but five of them are no longer in existence, and two are closed for the time being. Nine of the schools therefore remain unreplaced, and it is much to be regretted that five of them were ever closed. Education by means of Grant-in-Aid Schools is cheaper than education by Government Schools, but it is subject to frequent interruptions owing to difficulties with teachers and landlords, and I believe that if the Government Schools referred to had remained open, the attendance at them would by now have more than justified their existence. The remaining schools, four in number, were in small isolated hamlets and should never have been opened.

The decrease in the Grant-in-Aid Schools dates from 1895, when there were 83 Chinese Schools open as against 73 in 1899. I am afraid that in the near future the number will be still further reduced by the closing of schools in Victoria unless circumstances change very much. The general increase in rents is pressing severely on some of the schools and certain movements of population are also adversely affecting the schools in the Western Districts.

The total number of children on the rolls for the year under review is the largest on record. The number of scholars learning English continues to increase and the number of girls on the rolls is only four less than in the year 1893, in which the highest number occurs.

The ratio which the expenditure on education bears to the general revenue of the Colony has now sunk to a very low figure. This is, of course, due in some part to the increase in the attendance and in the fees charged at Queen's

College during the last ten years. The fees last year amounted to over \$27,000 and it is only natural to wish that some portion at any rate of this large sum could be diverted to Education and not be lost altogether in the general revenue of the Colony. The net expenditure on Education is now only 1.66 per cent. of the revenue.

I am much afraid that unless schools in Victoria are given an increased grant to compensate for the higher rents which landlords now demand, the loss of 15 Chinese Schools and 700 scholars will never be made up. There is a noticeable loss in Kowloon of 6 schools and 280 scholars.

School Fees.—All the Chinese Grant-in-Aid Schools are free, but with one exception, the English Schools charge fees varying from \$30 a year to \$6. In the English Division of the Belilios Public School a fee of \$6 a year is charged, but education in the other Government Schools which are under the Inspectorate is free. It is almost time, in my opinion, to raise the fee at the Belilios Public School to \$12 a year, and it is worth considering whether a small fee—say, \$3 a year—should not be charged in the Chinese Division, which is now very well attended.

School Attendance.—The Average Daily Attendance in 1899 was 4,418. That in the Grant-in-Aid Schools alone was 3,683. The corresponding figures for 1898 are 4,281 and 3,581. The ratio of the average daily attendance to the average monthly enrolment in 1898 was 81 per cent. and in 1899, 83 per cent. In the Grant-in-Aid Schools the highest average attendance—4,170—was in April; in July the average attendance had dropped to 3,165, or 24 per cent. This decrease was, no doubt, largely due to the plague. In the Chinese Division of the Belilios Public School where the attendance is naturally very quickly affected by epidemics the average attendance dropped from 181 in May to 64 in June, and in July stood at 70.

Government District Schools.—The number of the Government District Schools was reduced by three at the end of 1898 in the manner stated in my report for that year. The villagers of Stanley, though they were encouraged by me to do so, failed to start a Grant-in-Aid School for the study of Chinese; but the Female Education Society which has maintained a Chinese Girls School at Stanley for the last sixteen years, took up the work and turned their school into a Mixed school, engaging a qualified man to teach the boys. The school has been well attended and two-thirds of the scholars are boys. The average attendance which in 1898 was 21 rose to 41 in 1899, and as the average attendance at the Government School in 1898 was only 24, it is clear that no injury to education has been caused by the withdrawal of the Government.

The average attendance at the four schools which teach English shows an increase of 14 per cent. It has reached the limit of accommodation, and in the case of the two schools at Saiyingpoon and Waiwai, has passed a little beyond the point beyond which the teaching can remain as effective as is desirable.

Ten boys competed for the Free Scholarships at Queen's College in March, and four scholarships were awarded. Two of the successful boys had been educated at the Saiyingpoon school, one at Waiwai and one at Wongnai-chung. There were no competitors from the Yaumati school.

No change has been made in the curriculum of the English School beyond the introduction of translation in the Fourth Standard and the substitution of the elements of grammar for geography in the second.

Some slight progress, though not so great as I had expected, has been made in the substitution in the Chinese Schools of system of teaching Chinese adapted to elementary schools in place of time-honoured system in force in China.

Grant-in-Aid Schools.—The number of grant-in-aid schools on the roll is 96 compared with 100 on the roll in 1898. One new school, a mixed Chinese school under the management of the Roman Catholic Mission, has been opened at Aberdeen, where there was previously no school for girls, and the following five schools have been closed:—The Basel Mission School at Alatau-ch'ung, the Berlin Ladies Mission,

Queen's Road West School, the Roman Catholic St. Theresa School, the Roman Catholic Cathedral School, Division II., and the Wesleyan Mission Kennedytown School.

Out of the 96 schools on the roll only 87 were examined. Two schools were temporarily dispersed owing to the house in which they were located being rendered unsafe by the demolition of an adjacent house, and were excused examination, the grants being assessed on the results of the three preceding years. One school had to leave the premises occupied by it on a month's notice; a few of the scholars attended a school in the vicinity under the same management for the remainder of the year and were examined there. Four schools are closed pending the engagement of teachers. The teachers of two schools died during the year.

Two years ago I pointed out that 99 per cent. of the boys and 93 per cent. of the girls in Chinese Grant-in-Aid Schools were in the three lowest standards. I have tabulated the returns made by each school at the time of examination, and it appears from them that with the exception of Girls Schools in Class III more than half the scholars spend not more than a year in any particular school. A small percentage may have attended other Grant-in-Aid Schools in previous years, but the number cannot be large. In considering the educational problems of Hongkong these two facts are worth bearing in mind.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 28th July.

PRINCE TUAN AND THE HEAD-HUNTERS.

The following is an extract from the Chinese paper *Ling Hoi Pao* of the 27th inst.:—"Prince Tuan has issued orders that any one who has killed foreigners is to bring the heads to his yamen. As foreigner's heads are not easy to obtain, all Chinese having high noses and deep eyes have been beheaded by the "Boxers," and their heads have been continually brought in, and rewards claimed for them as being the heads of foreigners! Lately it has been found impossible to give any rewards, on account of the great number of supposed foreigners' heads brought in daily."

LI HUNG-CHANG'S MOVEMENTS.

A rumour through Chinese sources that Viceroy Li Hung-chang, having failed in his mission at Shanghai, will return in a few days to Canton, is unfounded, as three days ago H.E. wired here for a gun-boat, and yesterday the *Fook Poh*, under command of Lui Mon-king, left for Shanghai, there to await orders.

THE PROMOTED BANDITS RELAPSE.

The pirate chiefs, Foo Chan-hoy and Ao Sung have gone back to their old haunts again on the West River. They allege that the money they receive from the Government here is not enough for their daily expenses. They have already recommenced their plundering on the river and reports are current of the great mischief they have been doing of late.

GENERAL LAO RECALCITRANT.

General Lao, the Black Flag Chief, who was ordered to proceed to Peking overland by Viceroy Li Hung-chang before his departure from Canton, had refused to obey the order unless he has 20,000 men at his disposal.

SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 27th July.

THE DEFENCE (?) OF THE PORT.

Since I wrote last matters have been quietly taking their course. As I informed you, a general meeting of the European residents was held and a committee elected to formulate a scheme of defence. As far as one can find out this mountain has given birth to the proverbial mouse. Three weeks have passed and no plans have yet been announced, no second general meeting has been called, and all are in ignorance as to what is being done. This does not add to one's sense of security, and in the event of trouble there would be a grave charge to be made owing to the supineness of H. B. M.'s representative and the credulity of the Senior Consul. In perfect fairness let it be added that in three weeks, through the exertions of the Committee, a circular has been sent round asking what arms and ammunition we possess.

Last week we had a visit from the United States cruiser *Princeton* and were congratulating ourselves that the powers that be had induced the States to assist in doing what they should do themselves, viz., have a permanent floating armament stationed at Swatow. After three days, however, she sailed for Amoy.

THE SITUATION.

To all appearance the natives of Swatow proper are perfectly quiet and orderly, but how much warning did the white inhabitants of India have before the mutiny? Is not the Chinaman as inscrutable? We are indeed glad of one thing in Swatow—the personality of our missionaries. If these gentlemen will continue in their policy of not interfering and of sojourning at our local health resort for the sea-bathing, then one source of possible trouble will be removed.

We do not anticipate any trouble in the Swatow district; at the same time every precaution should be taken. To an observer the manner of the populace, although peaceful, has distinctly changed in the last three months, and there is an aggressiveness that before was not apparent. A fracas like that on the s.s. *Woosung* last Sunday, ending in bloodshed, with the chief officer badly mauled and only stopped by the tact and pluck of Capt. Dowson, would not have happened a few months ago. The crowd of coolies in Chinatown who used to open a lane for one's advance now has to be walked round. The demolition of a partly-built mission station eighteen miles from here, the carrying away of building material and the warning off of the alleged soldiers by the mob—all these straws show which way the wind blows. Are we ever to learn a lesson?

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

If trouble were to occur, individual efforts would be futile. The whites of Swatow are scattered over a mile of frontage. I hear by rumour we are all to make for a certain place. Puzzle—How to get there? Besides no additions have been made to the provisions of that place. Under certain circumstances a little food comes in useful. What must be insisted on is the stationing of a gunboat in the Swatow river. That and nothing else would be of the slightest use.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

OUTBREAK AT TINGCHAU-FU.

Swatow, 30th July.

Word reached Kiaying on the 24th inst. that the chapels of the London Mission at Tingchau-fu and Ho-tien had been destroyed. Ho-tien is a small market-town 40 li down the Hon River from Tingchau. At Tingchau-fu there was in connection with the chapel a dispensary in charge of a native of Amoy. Mr. Chang, the fu magistrate, has hitherto been exceptionally friendly, and there is quite a camp of soldiers just outside the city. In this prefecture there are many chapels of the London Mission in market-towns and villages.

HOW TO TREAT A RISE IN PRICES.

In Shang-hang hien, 240 li south of Tingchau there is a famine, rice selling at five shing to the dollar. There was trouble between the magistrate and the people. The latter won by closing all shops for two days.

KIAYING AND KIEH-YANG.

Kiaying seems absolutely tranquil, though there are rumours of the rising of the "Three Dot" society. Two soldiers guard the vacated premises of the Basel Mission.

All is quiet at Kieh-yang. The recent destruction of the chapel at Ng-yen-tung has only local significance.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Swatow, 31st July.

THE SCARE AMONG THE NATIVES.

After the first two meetings of the Defence Committee the British and German Consuls intimated to the Taotai their intention of applying to their respective Governments to station men-of-war here for the safety of foreigners. The Taotai instantly sent a reply to the Consuls imploring them not to send for any men-of-war, as the Chinese population would greatly resent the presence of foreign men-of-war in this port, looking upon such an act as the initial step to the partition of the Empire. This notion seems to have taken firm root with the frightened Chinese. The Taotai guaranteed the safety of

the foreigners and promised to have a number of soldiers patrolling the streets for the protection of the foreigners. The Taotai has duly kept his promise and we now see our streets patrolled by Chinese soldiers, day and night. I pity the person who places any reliance on these Chinese soldiers. It is merely relying on a broken reed for support. That the natives are actually scared is shown by the following incident. The *Princeton* had scarcely arrived in our port—she has since unfortunately departed, as you know—when a deputation from the Taotai waited upon the German Consul to implore him to use his utmost exertions to prevail upon the Commander to leave the port, as the Chinese were greatly scared and feared the taking of Swatow by the *Princeton*. The German Consul, when calling on board the *Princeton*, related the above to the Commander, and requested him not to allow any of the crew to land here, as it might cause trouble. The Commander informed him that he would in no case permit the landing of his crew, as he had instructions to that effect from his home Government.

NO PROTECTION.

We are now without any protection in this place and there is no likelihood of getting men-of-war stationed here. I hear that when the British Consul applied for a man-of-war, he was informed by his Government that for the present no man-of-war can be spared. We may, however, get a German man-of-war, when the German squadron arrives from Europe. Certainly it would be the safest thing to have a foreign man-of-war stationed here, as long as there is trouble up North.

A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

In pursuance of a resolution passed by the Defence Committee, the Chinamen sent to all the shipping firms of this port a circular asking them if they would agree always to have one steamer remaining over night in port to receive refugees in event of trouble. I believe all the shipping firms have given their consent to the request.

THE STATE OF TRADE.

The Northern trade is still at a comparative standstill. Very little export for the North leaves this port and I hear there is an enormous amount of sugar in stock, to the value of about \$400,000, which has considerably reduced the price. One can indeed buy a picul for \$2.

PILOTS.

The Northern crisis has also affected the local pilots, who have sent a petition to the British Consul asking for an increase in their pilotage. At a meeting held in the Customs Library, at which all the representatives, the Harbour Master, the German and British Consuls, and the pilots attended, it was agreed to increase the pilotage from \$3 to \$5 per foot.

A CUSTOMS ASSOCIATION.

I have it on good authority that the Chinese Imperial Customs are forming an Association, the object being to have a Committee of five, representing the interests of the Customs' Members, and to take such action as it finds necessary in the present crisis. I hear that Mr. F. S. Taylor, officiating I. G., and Mr. F. Unwin, Commissioner, are the promoters of this association.

The following items are from the *Foochow Daily Echo* of the 21st ult.:—"We hear of isolated cases of uncivil remarks being made to Missionaries, but they are quite exceptional and cannot be taken as betokening any change in the temper of the people towards us—indeed there is no change, the same general friendly feeling of the natives for us remains unaltered. That it is so, and that we have thus enjoyed a freedom from anxiety, is largely due to the wise discretion of our Consuls and the Provincial Authorities. It is a fortunate thing for us that we are living in a province governed by so wise and loyal a ruler as H. E. Hsu Ying-k'ai.—The rice growers could not possibly have had finer weather for their harvest than they have had this past week. The crop is said to be turning out better than was expected at the time of the flood, but from all accounts the average is not very much more than the half of a full crop, certainly not three-quarters.—The annual match of the Gun Club with Shanghai was won by Foochow, with a score of 69 against 68. Mr. C. L. Howell of Foochow scored a "highest possible."

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

THE TRUE STORY OF THE PEACE PROPOSALS
—TWO LEADERS STRIVING FOR POWER.

Manila, 23rd July.

The recent political vagaries in Manila of Pedro Paterno, a prominent insurgent, have received but little comment in the Spanish local Press, because the American Press censor has prohibited the publication, both here and in the United States, of this man's strange doings. Paterno's liberation from jail for the purpose of working on the peace propositions begun by Felipe Buencamino, his immediate publication of a most remarkable document in favour of Filipino independence, his subsequent reincarceration and the fact that he then took the oath of allegiance to the United States and was freed, but declined to accept his liberty, electing to remain in jail at American expense, reads much like an act from a burlesque comedy.

Paterno came to Manila about three months ago from Vigaw: he says he surrendered voluntarily, the army reports that he was captured. In Manila he was placed in Anda Street jail, along with Buencamino and other political prisoners. While in Anda Street, I think, he meditated political coups, similar to those carried out by Mr. Ollendorf's method and lived well at American expense. When General Otis left Manila he liberated Buencamino with the understanding that he used his influence with the Filipino people toward bringing about peace. Buencamino worked away on these lines alone until about the middle of June, when he realized that Paterno's influence would be a good thing to have on his, Buencamino's, side of the undertaking; so permission was obtained from General MacArthur for Paterno to leave his jail every day in order more easily to confer and work with Buencamino. Paterno returned to Anda Street to sleep, however, and it was understood between MacArthur and himself that his efforts and attitude must primarily embrace the recognition of the sovereignty of the United States in the Philippines. On June 21st there occurred, with MacArthur's permission, the locally famous meeting in Paterno's house, where some two hundred well-known revolutionists met to discuss the terms of an honourable and dignified peace with the American army. Thirty of the 200 men present were liberated from Anda Street to attend the meeting, and after a stormy and spicy session they resolved that peace could be obtained on certain set of eight bases, which that same evening were handed to General MacArthur. The next morning General MacArthur was stricken with a local fever, which prevented his attending to his official duties for nearly a week. This delay in the proceeding was seized upon by the Filipino enemies of Buencamino's plans (there were American enemies to the peace scheme as well, but these latter were passive) to start a hostile campaign in the country, with the idea of forestalling the good that the Manila crowd hoped to accomplish. During the delay caused by the American General's illness, Paterno sprang his coup d'état in the form of a most remarkable and impertinent document, without reason, without sequence, nor head nor tail, which began with a quotation from a plan of Philippine government once proposed by one James Creelman and ended with quotations from European statesmen, Gladstone, Von Moltke, Ferrari, etc., and which was nothing less than a seditious plea for Philippine independence, and it had a disquieting effect on the people. It was published simultaneously in all of Manila's Spanish papers, a method of publicity which insured its spreading throughout the entire archipelago. In this document Paterno set forth what he and his followers graciously would deign to accept from the United States in exchange for a cessation of hostilities by the Filipinos. He conceded the changing of the name "Filipino Republic" to that of "Free Filipino State" as a sop to American national pride; he demanded the admission on a basis of equality of Filipinos into the American Army, Navy, and Consular Corps, he demanded the recognition of the Filipino flag but saw no objection to the Stars

and Stripes flying by its side. After many printed columns of rules for the future restriction and guidance of the United States in Philippine affairs, by which he practically limited the power and control to the protection of the international relations of the "Free Filipino State," Paterno remarked that when the Americans had conceded the foregoing he opined that there would be peace. He announced a meeting in his house for the following Sunday to discuss his new programme. As soon as the real nature and significance of Paterno's utterances were made known to the military authorities, they forbade the meeting in question and Paterno was hustled back to Anda Street jail and kept *incomunicado*. The Filipino people jump at conclusions; they do not always read carefully and reason clearly; and Paterno worded his document in such a way that the common people at once concluded that the United States had conceded to the Filipinos all that Paterno had asked for, and "Paterno stock," as the man who had obtained these remarkably favourable concessions from the common enemy, boomed accordingly. On the streets natives talked volubly of the new "concessions," and said they had always known they could bring the Yankees to terms eventually. And during these days there was much talk of uprisings in Manila—explosive bombs were found in the street, houses were fired, General Estrella and General Ricarte were captured in Manila, each boldly admitting they were here to manage an uprising, and Ricarte's followers passed pictures of Aguinaldo among the crowd at the Tondo market, whispering mysteriously that the time had come. But this excitement died down. Paterno took the oath of allegiance to the United States before the Provost Marshal of Manila, Col. Williston, and was given complete liberty. But complete liberty did not suit Paterno; as long as he was in jail he could pose before the people as an oppressed martyr in the cause of liberty, and to do this is part of his scheme. So now he voluntarily returns to jail every night, saying he will not leave Anda Street until every Filipino political prisoner, under American duress, has first been set free. The prompt action by the American military authorities stopped the spread of the Paterno propaganda, but they were too late to suppress the feelings of exultation among the natives and the consequent depression resulting from their interpretation of the Paterno document, and thus gave Paterno an excellent chance to pose as a martyr for his country's independence. Notwithstanding this Paterno flare-up, Buencamino has persistently and quietly gone ahead with his work; he has received from General MacArthur the latter's answer to the peace propositions approved at the meeting of June 21st and has embodied these, together with the terms of the ninety day amnesty and some remarks of his own, in a pamphlet which is being distributed to the Filipinos in the provinces, including Aguinaldo. The more level-headed Filipinos and many Americans hope for a successful outcome to these peace propositions. But the idea has its Filipino enemies, and but three days ago these gentlemen showed their fine Italian hand by suddenly causing to disappear the trusty messenger who Buencamino intended should convey these proposals of peace and amnesty to Don Emilio Aguinaldo, in whatever corner of the woods that gentleman may now be found.

Col. Sir Norman Stewart, Bart., who will command the first brigade of the Chinese Expeditionary Force from India, is the eldest son of the late Field-Marshal Sir Donald Stewart, and only succeeded to the title a few weeks ago. He entered the army 29 years ago as a lieutenant of the old 68th, now the 1st Durham Light Infantry. In the Afghan campaign he was aide-de-camp to his father, and obtained mention in despatches, besides receiving the brevet of major. His other war service was in the Soudan in 1885, when he served as deputy-assistant-adjutant and quartermaster-general with the Indian contingent. For his services in this campaign he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel by brevet, and mentioned in despatches. Since the middle of last year he has been in command of the Hyderabad contingent, being appointed a colonel on the staff early in January of last year.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

he following is the seventieth report of the court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 18th August, at noon.

Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank and Balance Sheet for the half-year ending 30th June, 1900.

The net profits for that period, including \$960,843.56, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amounts to \$3,438,826.01.

In accordance with the intimation given at the last ordinary half-yearly general meeting, the Reserve Fund of \$11,500,000, has been divided into a Sterling Reserve Fund of \$10,000,000 and a Silver Reserve Fund of \$1,500,000. The Directors now recommend the transfer of \$500,000 from the Profit and Loss Account to credit of the Silver Reserve Fund, which will then stand at \$2,000,000.

After making this Transfer and deducting Remuneration to Directors, there remains for appropriation \$2,923,826.01, out of which the Directors recommend the payment of a Dividend of One Pound and Ten Shillings Sterling per Share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$533,333.33.

The difference in Exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the Dividend is declared, and 1/11½, the rate of the day, amount to \$672,940.39.

The Balance \$1,717,543.29 to be carried to New Profit and Loss Account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. A. McConachie having resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, Mr. H. W. Slade has been invited to fill the vacancy; the appointment requires confirmation at this meeting.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. C. S. Sharp.

N. A. SIEBS, Chairman.

Hongkong, 31st July, 1900.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30TH JUNE, 1900.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Paid-up capital	10,000,000.00	
Reserve fund:—		
Sterling reserve	10,000,000.00	
Silver reserve	1,500,000.00	
	11,500,000.00	
Marine insurance account	250,000.00	
Notes in circulation:—		
Authorised issue against securities deposited with the Crown agents for the colonies	10,000,000.00	
Additional issue authorised by Hongkong Ordinance No. 17 of 1899, against coin lodged with the Hongkong Government	1,353,419.00	
	11,353,419.00	
Current accounts:—		
Silver	63,900,416.25	
Gold, £1,874,959.6s.3d. =	18,744,171.93	
	82,644,588.18	
Fixed deposits:—		
Silver	35,733,130.76	
Gold, £4,035,419.14s.6d. =	40,330,456.99	
	76,072,587.75	
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawing on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments)	25,250,153.38	
Profit and loss account	3,438,826.01	
Liability on bills of exchange re-discounted, £4,663,936.2s.3d. of which up to this date £3,127,200 have run off.		
	\$220,509,574.32	
ASSETS.	\$	c.
Cash	26,782,994.52	
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against note circulation in excess of \$10,000,000	6,070,000.00	
Bullion in hand and in transit	4,878,482.44	
Indian Government rupee paper	1,825,550.89	
Colonial and other securities	5,947,808.34	
Sterling reserve fund investments, viz.:—		
£250,000 2½ per cent. Consols lodged with the Bank of England as a Special London Reserve, at 95	1,900,000.00	
£152,000 2½ per cent. Consols, at 90, £470,250	4,702,500.00	
£70,500 2½ per cent. National War loan at 90, £470,250		

\$349,500 other sterling securities standing in the books at £339,750	3,397,500.00
Bills discounted, loans and credits	10,000,000.00
Bills receivable	74,600,981.72
Bank premises	90,183,898.25
	219,858.16
	\$220,509,574.32

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT,
30TH JUNE, 1900.

Dr.	\$	c.
To amounts written off:—		
Remuneration to directors	15,000.00	
To dividend account:—		
£1.10/ per share on 80,000 shares=		
£120,000 at 4/6	583,333.33	
To dividend adjustment account:—		
Difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1/11½, the rate of the day	672,949.39	
To transfer to silver reserve fund	500,000.00	
To balance forward to next half-year	1,717,543.29	
	\$3,438,826.01	
Cr.	\$	c.
By balance of undivided profits, 31st December, 1899	960,843.56	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 30th June, 1900, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	2,477,982.45	
	3,438,826.01	

STERLING RESERVE FUND.	\$	c.
To balance	10,000,000.00	
	10,000,000.00	
By amount transferred from general reserve fund (invested in sterling securities.)	10,000,000.00	
	10,000,000.00	
SILVER RESERVE FUND.	\$	c.
To balance	2,000,000.00	
	2,000,000.00	
By amount transferred from general reserve fund	1,500,000.00	
By transfer from profit and loss account	500,000.00	
	2,000,000.00	

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND
MACAO STEAMBOAT
COMPANY.

The following is the report of the board of directors to the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders to be held at the office of the company, on Tuesday, the 7th August, at 12 o'clock, noon.

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the report and statement of accounts for the half-year ending 30th June last.

After paying running expenses, salaries, premia of insurance, repairs and all other outgoings, there remains, including \$43,213.41 brought forward from last account, the sum of \$159,267.23 at credit of profit and loss account. From this amount the directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 8 per cent. on capital, or \$96,000, be paid to shareholders, that \$21,000 be placed at credit of equalization of dividend fund (which will then stand at \$430,000), leaving a balance of \$42,267.23, to be carried forward to new account.

The West River Trade remains in much the same unsatisfactory position as mentioned in the last report. Business has, however, been good on the other lines, with the result that the total of steamers' earnings compares favourably with that of the corresponding six months of the previous year.

The item of repairs is heavier than usual, as it includes the cost of the *Powan's* new boilers, in addition to an extensive overhaul of that vessel. The other steamers have undergone the usual annual docking and repairs under Government survey.

Good progress is being made with the new pier which, it is expected, will be ready for occupation in about six weeks.

Upon leaving the Colony the Honourable E. B. Belilios resigned his seat at the board, and Mr. Robert Shewan was nominated by the directors to fill the vacancy. At the invitation of the directors Mr. Armin Haupt has also joined the board, and both these appointments require confirmation by the shareholders at this meeting.

In accordance with the Articles of association, Mr. E. Goetz and Mr. R. Shewan retire from the board by rotation, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The retiring auditors, Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson, also offer themselves for re-election.

J. J. KESWICK,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 31st July, 1900.

30th June, 1900.	ASSETS.	\$	c.
Value of steamers <i>Powan</i> , <i>Honam</i> and <i>Heungshan</i> and 1/10th of <i>Fatshan</i>		712,500.00	
Value of steam-launches <i>Lungshan</i> and <i>Lungkiang</i>		45,125.00	
Value of 1/3rd share of steamers <i>Wuchow</i> and <i>Sam Shui</i> and 4 lighters, and payments on account of 2 stern wheel steamers building for the West River trade		124,350.14	
Value of lighters <i>Sun Lee</i> and <i>Wo Lee</i>		12,500.00	
Value of wharves, hulks, and moorings		65,839.86	
Value of properties at Wuchow and Kongkun		8,346.77	
Value of coal, stores, and spare gear		11,810.84	
Value of furniture		750.00	
Value of shares in public companies		421,947.60	
Value of Chinese bonds		1,034.48	
Loans on mortgage		633,500.00	
Cash with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		36,438.62	
Interest accrued to date		1,510.48	
Premia on insurance policies unexpired		9,635.89	
Sundry debtors		9,778.00	
		\$2,145,067.68	

30th June, 1900.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Amount of capital, 80,000 shares of \$15 each, fully paid-up		1,200,000.00	
Amount at credit of depreciation and insurance fund		60,000.00	
Amount at credit of equalization of dividend fund		9,000.00	
Amount at credit of investment fluctuation account		137,826.55	
Unclaimed dividends		18,316.60	
Sundry creditors		29,657.30	
Amount at credit of profit and loss account		159,267.23	
		\$2,145,067.68	

30th June, 1900.	Dr.	\$	c.
To amount paid for repairs to steamers, including new boilers for steamer <i>Powan</i>		75,674.30	
To subscription to Indian Famine Relief Fund		250.00	
To directors and auditors' fees		2,750.00	
To balance to be appropriated, viz:—			
Dividend at 8 per cent. on \$1,200,000		\$96,000.00	
To be carried to equalization of dividend fund		21,000.00	
To be carried to new account		42,267.23	
		159,267.23	
		\$237,941.53	

31st Dec., 1899.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount brought forward from last account		43,213.41	
30th June, 1900.			
By net earnings of steamers		155,557.65	
By interest on investments		38,823.97	
By transfer fees		346.50	
		\$237,941.53	

30th June, 1900.	Dr.	\$	c.
To balance		600,000.00	
		\$600,000.00	

31st Dec., 1899.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount at credit		600,000.00	
		\$600,000.00	

30th June, 1900.	Dr.	\$	c.
To balance		9,000.00	
		\$9,000.00	

31st Dec., 1899.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount at credit		9,000.00	
		\$9,000.00	

The modern sceptic is beginning to ask "Can anything true come out of Shanghai?" The answer of course is yes. But it depends on what part of Shanghai. "What will they say next!" asks a disgusted Shanghaiander. "One cannot believe a tenth of what one hears." To which the sensationalist correspondent replies, "One needn't believe it, old fellow; but one can send it home!"—*Shanghai Mercury*.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

SWATOW.

The report on the trade of Swatow for 1899 is the work of Mr. Consul Hurst. He notes a considerable advance during the year, the gross total of exports and imports being valued at £6,936,274, an increase of 33 per cent. on the £5,210,967 of 1898. The total includes £4,730,417 for imports, and £2,205,857 for exports, the former advancing 38 per cent. and the latter over 23 per cent. As 1898 was the record year to date, the state of affairs is satisfactory. As regards the direct trade with foreign countries, the customs returns value imports at £1,917,242 and exports at £688,919, increases of about 11 and 18 per cent. £1,925,520 of the total imports come from Hongkong and goods valued at £267,954 proceed thither. In shipping, though 872 vessels with a tonnage of 910,011 were British out of a total of 1,121 vessels with a tonnage of 1,128,021, the percentage fell from 84 in 1898 to 80 in 1899. This, however, Mr. Hurst says, "is not surprising seeing that a heavily subsidised Japanese line has commenced running on routes where, heretofore, British steamers have met with little or no competition. Germany only advanced from 72 entries to 85, but, nevertheless, German shipping and commerce are advancing rapidly. Says Mr. Hurst:—"A noteworthy and, as regards British shipping, a serious incident in the shipping trade of the port has been the transfer by purchase of the fine fleet of the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company to the Nord Deutscher Lloyd Steam Navigation Company. This step will shortly result in 15 steamers, averaging over 100 tons each, hoisting the German flag in place of the British. These vessels have enjoyed a virtual monopoly of the emigration business between this port and Bangkok, and have taken a considerable share of that with the Straits Settlements. The change of flag has not yet taken place, rumour has it that it will be effected on April 1 next. I find that during the past year there were 77 entries of steamers belonging to the Scottish Oriental Company of an aggregate tonnage of 79,399 tons. When, therefore, the change of flag is completed, a decrease due to this cause of about 80,000 tons per annum from British shipping may be expected, with a corresponding increase in German. Possibly other lines may find it worth their while to compete for the emigration business, and compensations may be found in other directions, but there is a prospect of a marked decrease next year in the percentage of British shipping." Japanese shipping has advanced from 6 vessels of 6,722 tons in 1898 to 92 vessels of 86,256 tons in 1899.

Among imports, the sharp decline in the demand for Indian opium in 1894 has not continued, and the quantity has risen almost to the 1894 level again. The import of the native drug, however, continues to increase. Cottons goods "show a healthy expansion which should be gratifying to the Manchester manufacturers." Indian cotton yarn continues to hold the market. Coal has been in great demand, Japan securing most of the trade. Owing to the prosperity of the inhabitants lime for building purposes is much sought after. Kerosene oil advanced "by leaps and bounds," and the flour import has doubled since 1898.

The one principal export of Swatow is sugar, and in 1899, 2,184,676 cwt., worth £1,160,157, left the port, as compared with 1,734,242 cwt., worth £887,456, in 1898. The export of sugar was almost entirely to central and north Chinese treaty ports, chiefly Shanghai, Hankow, Chinkiang, Newchwang, and Chefoo.

With regard to emigration Mr. Hurst says:—"The growing prosperity of the port would lead to the expectation that a decline in the number of emigrants would be shown. On the contrary, emigration has been brisk, and would have been still larger had it not been for its almost total suspension from June 5 to September 28, consequent on the prohibition of immigrants into the Straits Settlements as a precautionary measure against the spread of bubonic plague. 89,795 emigrants left the port in 1899, as compared with 73,995 in 1898, and 71,428 in 1897. Of this number 16,629 proceeded to Hongkong, 20,581 to Bangkok, 4,962 to Saigon, 34,775 to the Straits Settlements, and 3,916 to Sumatra. On the other hand 70,011 Chinese returned to the port, so that the

cess of emigration to immigration only amounted to 19,783 persons."

Mr. Hurst concludes his report with the following "General Remarks":—"There has been a good deal of building going on during the year to meet the requirements of trade expansion, including 12 new warehouses erected by a British firm on the Swatow side of the harbour. Attention has been paid to the improvement of the sanitary condition of the locality. The main street skirting the harbour on the Kialat (Swatow) side has been cleared of hawkers' stalls and accumulating filth; and now there is an excellent fairly clean road free from obstructions on that side of the estuary. This improvement is due chiefly to the efforts of the British and German Consuls."

FOOCHOW.

Mr. Consul Playfair in his report on the trade of Foochow for 1899 records an increase of £323,724 over 1898, the total value of trade being £2,593,033. With regard to shipping he says:—"The great bulk of the steam traffic remains as before in British hands and shows, both in its entirety and in the British predominance, an appreciable increase over 1898. It will be observed that the number of sailing vessels is notably more. The increase is attributable to Japanese craft, and for this the neighbourhood of Formosa is chiefly accountable. Japan is gradually enlarging her share in the shipping trade. A line of steamers now plies regularly between Shanghai, Foochow, Formosa, and Hongkong. The vessels belong to the Japanese Red Cross Society and in time of war would act as hospital ships, but in peace are being used for cargo and passengers. I hear them highly spoken of in point of comfort." He goes on to say:—"The privileges accorded by the Inland Navigation Regulations are sparsely taken advantage of at Foochow by Europeans. On the Hin River the limit of navigation is soon reached, it does not extend 100 miles. On the Yung-fu River the distance navigable is still less. Upwards, between Foochow and Shui-K'ou, the head of navigation on the Min River, and downwards towards the sea, a number of native-owned steam launches ply, and in view of the inevitable competition probably the enterprise does not attract Europeans. As Mr. Fraser pointed out in his trade report for 1898, there remain places on the sea-coast in considerable numbers to which the concession applies, but these do not seem to tempt Western energies."

The increase of foreign imports since the previous year is £177,825, the import of opium in particular having risen over 50 per cent. in value, the trade being chiefly in native hands. The importation of the native article fell off during the year. Piece-goods remained fairly stationary but English drills fell off. Piece-goods, Mr. Playfair remarks, "illustrate what is becoming a normal feature of foreign trade in China, except at the distributing centres, Hongkong and Shanghai, the trade is entirely in the hands of the Chinese, who go to these distributing centres to purchase the stock they require. China still needs the foreigner for exports, but for imports he is not essential. This feature of modern trade in China, which is gradually becoming a constant factor at all outposts, does not affect the volume of trade nor the profits of the manufacturer. The volume of trade increases at a regular rate every year in almost all places; Birmingham and Manchester thrive though the middleman's occupation is nearly gone." Under the same head of imports Mr. Playfair notes the establishment of a British firm for match manufacture at Foochow on favourable terms.

Going on to speak of the *lekin* and transit-pass systems Mr. Playfair says: "I believe that at present a portion of the sums acquired from transit half-duty is handed over to the provincial treasury, but more than this is required. Such funds should be handed over altogether; Peking has no claim to them. It is understood that when the tariff revision is carried out for which China is clamouring, foreign nations will not be averse to an increase of the duties, but will require as a *quid pro quo* the abolition of extra tariff dues altogether. On foreign goods there will be then only one payment of duty throughout the Empire, that will be paid to the Imperial Maritime Customs and will clear the goods throughout the country. If such finality can be attained it will be

a great boon to foreign commerce; but it will be unattained and unattainable unless the claims of the provinces are fairly taken into account. If *lekin* and its congeners are to be successfully done away with, each province must receive its specified quota of the tariff duties. One difficulty connected with the abolition of *lekin* and the like is the fact that an immense number of subordinate officials will be thrown out of work, and will lose their means of livelihood. It is a problem which will demand much thought for its solution."

The only important export from Foochow is tea, and in the tea-trade an advance was made, the figures reaching 48,164,500 lbs., worth £1,034,060 against 41,832,896, worth £970,974, in 1898. The decline of taste in the matter of tea (which is shown by the growing preference for Ceylon and Indian teas) has seriously affected the higher grade teas of Foochow, but the United States and Canada still stand out against the British-grown product.

Mr. Playfair says:—"Foochow has hitherto not been the hunting ground of European concessionaires. No railways have been surveyed, nor any attempt been made to open mines of coal or metal. I hear that some prospecting has been done, but I have not heard of any practical result. This may be owing to a lack of capital. I believe coal of good quality and quantity is to be found in the neighbourhood of Foochow."

With regard to the proposed *lekin*-free area, he says:—"The question of what portion of this port is to be held a *lekin* free area has not yet been decided. The right of the British merchant to convey foreign goods across the Long Bridge into the southern suburb of the city exempt from *lekin* has, however, been established as a temporary arrangement until the *lekin* free area has been officially determined. The sole condition insisted on by the local authorities is that such goods shall be accompanied by the Consul's card, certifying their nature and ownership. This arrangement, negotiated by Mr. Fraser last spring, has worked smoothly since it was started."

We will conclude with Mr. Playfair's account of the "Bureau of Foreign Affairs." "Till early in the present year there was in Foochow a department called the Board of Foreign Trade, which was presided over by two officials, with the rank of Taotai, and which was supposed to serve as a channel of communication between the Viceroy and the Consuls. From these it obtained scant recognition, for though convenient inasmuch as it acted as a sort of buffer between the Viceroy and the foreign officials, and no doubt saved him considerable labour, still it was defective inasmuch as its heads were not endowed with sufficient authority, and there was no assurance that their orders would be obeyed by the local authorities. Moreover, owing to the fact that there were two chiefs, the responsibility was divided, to the detriment of business. In the spring this Board was finally abolished, by orders of the Tsung-li-Yamen a new department took its place. This is called the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, and has the advantage of having only one supreme head. The division of responsibility has ceased, but I am by no means convinced that the Bureau is more competent to enforce its authority than the Board was."

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

FIELD BATTERY V. "A" MACHINE GUN CO.

An interesting Carbine Match was fired on the Kowloon Ranges on Sunday morning between teams representing the Dock detachment of the Field Battery and the "A" Machine Gun Co. The conditions were 7 shots and a "sighter" at the 200, 400, and 500 yards distances, 8 men aside, best seven scores to count.

The Dock detachment was unfortunate in being deprived of the services of one of its best men, and this circumstance, coupled with the good shooting of some of the younger members of "A" Company—Gunnery Cox and Holmes in particular—contributed largely to the result, which was a somewhat easy win for the "A" Company men by 43 points.

At the conclusion of the shooting welcome refreshments were dispensed by the Dock detachment men and cheers given for the winners.

A return match will be fired as soon as a suitable date can be arranged.

Appended are the scores:—

	"A" COMPANY.			Total
	200.	400.	500.	
Sergeant Lammert	32	35	28	95
Gunner Cox	33	33	28	92
Sergt.-Major Smyth	28	35	30	91
Gunner Holmes	31	29	28	88
Gunner Wodehouse	27	30	28	85
Bomb. Plummer	26	20	22	68
Corporal Barrett	20	33	10	63

Grand total... 582

DOCK DETACHMENT.

	200.	400.	500.	Total
Gunner Stewart	31	32	31	94
Gunner Lapsley	31	34	29	94
Gunner Baldwin	30	33	25	88
Sergeant Rutter	29	25	30	84
Gunner Rattey	29	30	9	68
Bomb. Deas	21	18	23	62
Lieut. Armstrong	18	17	14	49

Grand total... 539

THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.

The Philippine Civil Commission will assume the form of a legislative body on the 1st day of September next. General MacArthur will continue to act as Governor of the islands and will carry out the laws made by the Civil Commission. In political status the Commission will be paramount and the Military Governor will act under its authority and enforce its enactments.

The position which Judge Taft will occupy as President of the Commission will be similar to that of a speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives or a President of the Senate. The Commission will make such laws and discuss and formulate such a system of enactments as will appear to them to be most just and equitable for the good government and welfare of the islands. The various members of the Commission are making enquiries and preparing reports respecting the various department of the local governments. The entire confidence of President McKinley has been placed in the Commission and they will act with practically a free hand, the administrative ability of the President, Judge Taft and the intelligence of the individual members being relied on to formulate a system of government which shall meet with the approval and fulfill all the reasonable aspirations of the Filipinos.

General MacArthur will continue to act as Governor of the islands until such time as the President of the Commission reports to the President of the United States that the islands are in a fit condition to be wholly entrusted with civil government.

HONGKONG.

A woman residing at No. 37, D'Aguiar Street died on the 31st ult. from opium poisoning. The case is being enquired into by the police.

The *Haiching*, which arrived here on the 27th ult., having left Amoy on the 25th inst., reports that the U. S. S. *Princeton* was still at that port.

Last week's return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum shows that 336 non-Chinese and 92 Chinese visited the former institution, 145 non-Chinese and 1,717 Chinese the latter.

On the 30th ult. the French gun-vessel *Vipère* arrived from Saigon. Her principal figures are:—displacement 486 tons; i. h. p. 441; guns, two 5.5 in., two 3.9 in.; speed 12.3 knots; complement 80.

Mr. Ho Tung and his wife were among the departures by the American mail steamer *China* on the 31st ult. They proceed to San Francisco and then across the American continent, whence they will go on a visit to England. Mr. Ho Tung takes the Colony's best wishes with him.

The Italian Admiral Canoliani, who arrived by the *Fieramosca* on Sunday, came ashore on the 30th ult., being received by a guard of honour composed of Welsh Fusiliers, with band, colours, and goat. Captain Bancroft was in command and Lieut. Guither had charge of the colours. Consul Volpicelli welcomed the Admiral as he stepped ashore. The Admiral subsequently paid his respects to the Governor and Major-General G.ascoigne.

The transport *Natiana* left the harbour on the 2nd inst. for Weihaiwei.

The body of the Chinese carpenter, who fell overboard in the harbour the other day, has been recovered near to where he fell.

For some considerable time on the 31st ult. guns were fired at five minutes' interval by the war-ships in the harbour out of respect to the late King of Italy.

On the 30th ult. Sergeant Ritchie was in Des Voeux Road when he saw a Chinaman leave an arms-shop carrying something heavy in a bag. He was evidently making for a boat alongside the Praya, and suspecting that all was not right the Sergeant stopped him and searched the bag, which he found to contain 250 rounds of ammunition. The man was taken to the Central Police Station and on the 31st ult. fined \$250.

A Government servant residing in Queen's Road East had a rather mean trick served upon him the other night. Four R. E. men and another—none of them being known to him—called at his house in his absence, and seeing a bottle of whiskey and a box of cigars on the table they helped themselves, hardly a "peg" or a cigar being left by the time they had finished.

On the night on the 27th ult., a tally-man in the employ of the Godowns Company saw a coolie occasionally employed by the company coming through the gate with a bottle of beer and a couple of cakes of soap sticking out his pocket. He stopped him, and finding that the man was endeavouring to do a little pilfering gave him into custody. The defendant's anxiety to get cheap drinks and soap resulted in his being sent to gaol for a month.

Heung I, a chair coolie employed by Mr. J. C. Moxon, was charged on the 27th ult. with disobeying the reasonable orders of his master. The previous night the complainant handed to his boy a letter for Mr. Kelly, who resides in Des Voeux Villas, the Peak, telling him to give it to the defendant to take. The defendant, however, replied that it was not his business, and subsequently professed not to know where to go, though the place was explained to him. Fined \$10, or a month.

A Chinaman on the 31st ult. was charged with stealing a pair of shoes from No. 1, Stanley Street. The prosecutor said that he happened to be awake early that morning when he saw the prisoner creep stealthily into his room, grab a pair of new shoes, belonging to him, and make off. The prosecutor jumped up, yelling "Stop thief," and followed the man into the street. He continued to bawl at the top of his voice and Sergeant Findlay grabbed the runaway and took him to the Central Police Station. On the 31st ult. the thief was sentenced to three months' hard labour. There were two previous convictions against him.

Five men were brought up at the Magistracy charged with being concerned with an armed robbery near Kowloon City. They were remanded until next week. They are charged with entering a house on the night of the 28th ult. They had swords with them, and because the master and his *fok* objected to their taking away his goods they attacked them with their swords, cutting off one of the master's thumbs and slashing him about the head. They then ransacked the premises and decamped with property valued at \$50. On their departure the police were informed and the master was taken to the Hospital. Later on the prisoners were arrested with some of the stolen property in their possession.

Robert John McEachern, a seaman employed on board the *Monmouthshire*, had a lively time on the night of the 28th ult., the result being that he found himself at the Magistracy on the 30th ult. charged with assaulting a sampan woman and damaging her boat to the extent of \$4. It appears that he had been ashore on the 28th ult. and was returning to his ship in the evening in a slightly "elevated" condition. He hired a sampan at Kowloon Wharf, and as he was being rowed towards his ship by a woman and girl he became obstreperous. He got hold of the woman and girl, and during the struggle the latter fell into the water. She, however, does not appear to have come to any harm. For safety the sampan people rowed their boat against a lighter. The defendant got on board the lighter, and the crew kept him still until the arrival of the police by fastening him up. On the defendant promising to pay \$10 compensation the case was withdrawn.

The men from the British warships in the harbour landed at Kowloon on the 31st ult. and had a march out.

The new bathing and boating shed at Kowloon in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club, was opened on the 27th ult., a launch leaving Murray Pier at 5.30 p.m. for the convenience of the members.

We beg to draw the attention of those interested in shipping that from the 1st instant the pilotage rate at the port of Swatow has been fixed at 85 per foot, English measurement, for all-sized crafts.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on the 30th ult. Mr. G. J. W. King offered for competition three lots of Crown land. Quarry Bay Inland Lot No. 5 was purchased by Messrs. Butterfield Swire for \$860 (\$20 above the upset), and Rural Building Lot No. 105 by Mr. G. W. Playfair for \$1,024 (\$20 above the upset). Messrs. Shewan, Tomes, and Co. bought Hung Hom Inland lots Nos. 225 and 226 for \$24,500, which is at the rate of 57½ cents a foot.

The Italian cruiser *Fieramosca*, which arrived in the harbour from Singapore on the 28th ult., brought Admiral Count Camillo Canoliani with her. She is a 2nd class cruiser, built at Leghorn and launched in 1888. Her principal figures are: displacement 3,600 tons; i.h.p. 7,700; armour, gun-position 5 in., deck 1½ in.; guns, two 9.8 in.; six 6 in. Q.F., one 2.9 in., five 2.2 in., eight 1.4 in., two maxims; torpedo tubes 4; speed 17.5 knots; and complement 315. The Austrian cruiser *Kaiserin Maria Theresa* also arrived on Saturday. We have already given her figures.

Yeung Fung, the head bar-boy at Thomas's Grill Rooms, appeared at the Magistracy on the 31st ult. to prefer a charge of assault against F. G. Ferguson, a seaman out of employ. The complainant, whose face bore signs of rough usage, said that the previous night the defendant called for drinks and one of the bar-boys asked him for 80 cents. The defendant threw some water over the boy and refused to pay. The complainant then asked him for the money, whereupon the defendant banged him in the eye. Not content with this he followed the complainant into the corridor and gave him a blow in the mouth. An Indian constable was called to arrest him. A fine of \$15, or a month, was imposed.

As the result of enquiries made by the police further details are to hand as to the death of the young Chinawoman who resided at No. 33, D'Aguilar Street, who died on Sunday from opium poisoning. It appears that the woman was recently married to a European Government official, who subsequently deserted her. Having no means of subsistence she got into debt, and this seemed to prey upon her mind. Accordingly on Sunday she sent for 30 c nts worth of opium, which she swallowed, and then calmly waited for the end, sitting in front of a bundle of joss sticks which she had set light to. Replying to the servant girl, who asked for an explanation, she said, "It is for myself, as I shall not be alive much longer. I have taken something to put an end to my life." She shortly afterwards died. The post mortem showed that opium poisoning was the cause of death.

At the Happy Valley on the night of the 28th ult. the burial of the remains of two men from H.M.S. *Goliath*, who met their deaths the previous afternoon, took place. The blacksmith's mate (Jones) and a marine artilleryman named W. McNicols were engaged in doing some repairs to the double bottom. Having occasion to return to the deck for something Jones unthinkingly let the hatch down. About ten minutes afterwards he suddenly remembered what he had done, and rushing back to the hatch opened it and saw McNicols lying apparently unconscious at the bottom. He lost no time in getting down below, but before he could render his comrade any assistance he too was overpowered by the poisonous fumes emanating from the double bottom of the ship. Seeing how things were the blacksmith next went below and at once became unconscious. One of the officers managed to attach a rope to the body of the blacksmith, who was hauled up, and removed to the Naval Hospital in a precarious condition. The bodies of Jones and McNicols were subsequently got up. The sad affair has cast a gloom over the war vessels in the harbour.

The French gun-vessel *Vipère* left on the 1st inst. for Taku, the Italian cruiser *Fieramosca* and the Austrian cruiser *Maria Theresa* for Shanghai.

The U. S. cruiser *Buffalo* arrived in the harbour on the 27th ult. from Colombo. She is a converted merchant vessel, of 6,888 tons displacement and 3,600 i.h.p. Her armament is:—two 5 in. Q. F., four 4 in., six 6 prs., and two maxims. Her speed is 14.5 knots and her complement 297 men. She left again on the 29th.

Mr. Reece appeared at the Magistracy on the 28th ult. and asked for a re-hearing of the case arising out of a fight between two gangs of coolies in Des Voeux Road a few days before. One of the coolies was slashed on the side with a chopper, and the man who did this was sentenced to four months' hard labour, four others being sentenced to a month each. The application was granted, bail being fixed at \$250 on the first prisoner and \$25 on each of the other four.

As Sergeant Macdonald was walking along the road near the Sai Kok Tsui at about five o'clock on the 1st inst. he met a Chinaman with an umbrella up. As it was not raining at the time and it was too early for the sun's rays to render such a precaution necessary he drew near and noticed that the man was carrying a parcel which he was evidently desirous of concealing. On being asked what he had got, the man said he had bought a clock from a man in the street and was taking it to the Cosmopolitan Docks. This was too thin a story for the Sergeant, who took the man to the Yaumati Police Station and subsequently brought him up before Mr. Hazeland, who fined him \$10 or two months for being in unlawful possession.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1900-1	1899-00
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	3,177,099	8,384,093
Kobe	9,882,016	9,518,279
	13,059,115	17,902,372

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1899-1900	1898-99.
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	9,595,307	14,832,251

SILK.

CANTON, 20th July.—Silk.—Tsatlees.—A few lots of No. 1 and No. 2 have been settled at \$680 to \$665. Re-reels.—About 100 bales of No. 1 Re-reels have been bought at \$700 to \$715 per picul and more might be had at the latter rate. Filatures.—Have been in good demand during the first part of the fortnight and prices ruled very firm. During the last few days demand has slackened somewhat but prices have been well maintained. The majority of the good filatures are still occupied filling their engagements for Short-reels; and as these realise more remunerative prices to the producers, Lyons orders for fine and middle sizes are difficult to execute. Short-reels.—The demand for New York has fallen off, and dealers being pressed for money, small concessions might be obtainable. The 3rd crop is estimated at 5,000 bales Filatures and 1,000 bales Tsatlees, but the bulk of the Cocoons are said to be of inferior quality. Waste.—Although transactions have not been important, prices of Steam Waste advanced about 10 per cent. and there is very little offering. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 2/½, and Fcs. 2.55½ per Dollar.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	—	—
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	243	105
	243	105

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1900-1901	1899-00
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	—	—
Canton	—	—
Yokohama	50	2
	50	2

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—A further decline in prices is reported, stocks having accumulated. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$93.00 to \$93.50; sales 300 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—Prices are further declining, the market being very weak. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.70 to \$7.75	pcul.
do. " 2, White.....	7.10 to 7.15	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.25 to 5.30	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.15 to 5.20	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.80 to 7.85	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.15 to 7.20	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.15 to 5.20	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.05 to 5.10	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	11.55 to 11.60	"
Shekloong "	10.00 to 10.10	"

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—Malwa.—A small business was done at \$870 to \$910.

Bengal.—A large business was done, from \$912½ to \$942½ for Patna and Benares. Subsequently prices receded to \$925, but at the close again recovered to \$932½ for Patna and Benares.

Persian.—Sales have been made in good drug at \$850 per picul; medium drug is quoted at \$500 to \$600.

STOCK.

Patna.....	1,035
Benares.....	510
Malwa.....	354
Persian.....	2,220½

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—A fair amount of business passed at a rise of ¼ to \$1. Closing steady to quiet. Stock, about 3,000 bales.

Bombay,	20.00 to 22.50	picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon, {	21.00 to 24.50	"
and Dacca,		
Shanghai and Japanese, ..	26.00 to 26.50	"
Tungchow and Ningpo,.....	26.00 to 26.50	"

Sales: about 300 bales.

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 2nd August.—The long expected demand has at last made its appearance, and business has greatly developed during the past fortnight, and sales aggregating 13,579 bales have been reported. Prices are rising steadily, but we do not think the advance will go much further, as holders induced by a rising exchange are anxious to push business while the demand lasts. During the late period of depression stocks in the interior became practically exhausted, and now buyers find themselves at a disadvantage on a rising market. At the close demand appears to have somewhat fallen off, but importers having more or less eased their holding can afford to wait further developments. With small receipts and considerable offtakes our estimate of stock shows a heavy decrease on last figures. The market closes quiet and unsteady.

No. 6s. and 8s.—Neglected throughout.

No. 10s.—Have, as usual, attracted most attention and values show an appreciation of \$2 to \$4 per bale.

No. 12s.—Best threads in request at an advance of \$3 to \$5 per bale, but shortness of supplies is affecting business.

No. 16s.—Although in small request, may be called \$1 to \$2 higher.

No. 20s.—The high prices now asked for Japanese spinnings are diverting the attention of dealers entirely to this count and nearly 4,000 bales are reported to have changed hands at an advance of \$2 to \$5 per bale, although in special instances as much as \$7 have been obtained.

Local Manufacture.—Sales of about 800 bales No. 10s. of the Hongkong S. W. and Dyeing Mills, at \$85 to \$86, have transpired.

Japanese Spinings.—Holders are very firm and no new business is impracticable. Prices in Japan are still \$5 to \$6 above the equivalent of those ruling here and any forward contract is out of the question. Sales of about 1,000 bales at from \$96 to \$101 amongst the natives are reported.

Raw Cotton.—The failure of the rains in the cotton districts of the Bombay Presidency has led to a reaction in our market here, and holders have withdrawn stocks from the market by asking an advance of \$3 to \$4 per picul. Buyers are responding slowly to the enhanced cost and during the interval sales amounting to 281 bales of Bengal descriptions have transpired, say 100

bales at \$20½, 25 bales at \$22½, 30 bales at \$23, 88 bales at \$23½ and 138 bales at \$24½, leaving a stock of about 3,000 bales. Sales of about 200 bales Tonquin Cotton at from \$19 to \$23½ are also reported. There has again been nothing doing in China kinds. Stock nil.—Quotations: Bengal \$20 to \$27, Rangoon \$18, to \$25 and China \$25 to \$26.

Exchange on India has continued strong and closes to-day at Rs. 15½ for T/T and Rs. 15½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ nominal.

The undenoted business in Indian, Japanese and Local spinnings has been reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ending 28th ultimo, viz:—

Indian.—Total sales 6,570 bales, comprising 1,905 bales No. 10s., 130 bales No. 12s., 90 bales No. 16s., and 4,445 bales No. 20s., prices showing no change in No. 10s., 12s. and 16s., but an advance of 1½ in No. 20s. and market closing steady. The stock was estimated at 50,000 bales.

Japanese.—Business has been greatly restricted by reduced stocks and paucity of supplies; sales during the interval only amounting to 650 bales on the basis of 1½s. 69 to 73 for No. 16s. and 1½s. 71 to 73 for No. 20s., prices showing a further advance of 3 to 4 1½s. and market closing very strong. Estimated unsold stock about 1,000 bales.

Local.—Total sales about 2,000 bales (both packed and unpacked), prices obtained being 1½s. 60 to 63 for No. 10s., 6½ to 62½ for No. 12s., 1½s. 63 64½ for No. 16s., market closing very weak with anxious sellers.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—There are no demands coming from the mainland, and the prices are going downward. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.70 to 2.75
" Round, Good quality	2.95 to 3.00
" Long	3.23 to 3.28
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.85 to 2.90
" Garden, " No. 1 ..	3.25 to 3.30
" White	3.95 to 4.00
" Fine Cargo	4.10 to 4.15

COALS.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—Sales of Japanese at quotations. Small sales of Cardiff at \$30.00 ex ship. Market firm. Quotations are:—

Cardiff.....	\$30 to \$35 ex godown
Australian \$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal	
Yubari Lump.....	\$11.00—ex godown
Miki Lump	8.00 to 8.50 nominal
Moji Lump	\$7.00 to \$9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double }	11.50 to \$12 ex godown
screened	
Hongay Lump.....	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust	5.50 — "
Briquettes.....	14.50 — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—1,600 bales No. 10 at \$85 to \$92, 1,100 bales No. 12 at \$90 to \$94, 250 bales No. 16 at \$95 to 97, 1,800 bales No. 20 at \$94 to \$106.

COTTON YARN.—

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	\$78.00 to \$104.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....	137.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....	155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.05 to 2.15
7 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
8.4 lbs.	2.90 to 3.65
9 to 10 lbs.	3.80 to 4.65
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.60 to 2.80
58 to 60 "	3.25 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.30 to 5.10
Fine.....	5.20 to 7.80
Book-folds.	4.40 to 6.30
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.78 to 1.60
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 "), "	2.00 to 2.20
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.90 to 2.10
7lbs. (32 "), "	2.40 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	2.80 to 3.50
Drills, English—40yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.20 to 7.10

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.70 to 7.00
Brocades—Dyed	4.20 to 5.20
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08½ to 0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.26 to 0.65
Velveteens—18 in.	0.23 to 0.28

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.40 to 2.50	per dozen
WOOLENS—	
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. 0.90 to 1.70	per yard
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths 1.55 to 1.75	
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.70 to 10.30
Assorted.....	6.80 to 10.40
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 21.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches Assorted	11.50 to 22.00
Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00
Blankets—8 ot 12 lbs.	4.20 to 10.00

METALS.—

Iron—Nail Rod	5.00 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 5.00 to —	
Swedish Bar	8.00 to —
Small Round Rod	5.75 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	6.00 to —
Wire 5/25	9.00 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop 10.00 to —	
Australian	10.00 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz. 14/20 oz. 38.00 to —	
Vivian's. 14/20 oz. 38.00 to —	
Elliot's. 14/20 oz. 37.00 to —	
Composition Nails	60.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00 to —
Tin	63.00 to —

Tin-Plates	7.50 to —
Steel ½ to ¾	6.00 to —

SUNDRIES.—

Quicksilver	161.00 pep picul
Window Glass.....	5.75 to — per box
Kerosene Oil	2.54 to — per 10-gal. case

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—Business continues to be most restricted and there is nothing of any importance to report. Rates however in most cases are well maintained and in some show an improvement. Settlements on the 31st, which were of a very limited nature, passed off satisfactorily.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai changed hands in the early part of the week at 303 and 302 per cent. prem., the market closing quiet at 302 per cent. prem. The latest London rate by wire is £53. 5s. 0d. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—No change or business to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—No business to report under this heading.

SHIPPING.—A few Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboats have been placed at \$30½, market closing with sellers at that rate. Indo-Chinas have ruled steady at \$70 with only small sales. Douglasses continue neglected, but could probably be placed at \$40. China Manilas are obtainable and China Mutuals enquired for at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled steady at \$114, but without sales. This Company has declared an interim dividend of \$2.50 payable on 18th instant. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—With the exception of a few small sales of Punjoms and Caledonians at quotations there is nothing to report under this heading.

DOCKS WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue dull and neglected with sellers and no sales at 512 per cent. prem. Kowloon Wharfs have been in some request; a few new shares changed hands in the early part of the week at \$55, but the demand could not be satisfied and at time of writing buyers are willing to pay \$58 for new and \$86 for old shares. Wanchais unchanged with no business.

LANDS HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue quiet, but steady with small sales at \$160 cum and \$157 to \$155 ex dividend. Market closing with sellers at \$156. Hotels remain on offer at \$125 without sales. West Points could be placed at \$46.50 ex dividend but shares are not available. Humphreys have been negotiated in fair lots at \$9.90 and \$10, closing steady at the latter rate.

COTTONS.—Hongkong have changed hands at \$25 and \$26. Quotations for the Northern Mills in the absence of local business, are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Cements have changed hands at \$20½ and \$20¼. Ices at \$163 ex dividend. Ropes at \$160, and China Providents at \$9.85 and \$9.75.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$502½, sellers]
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	302 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares		\$27.
B. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares...	£8	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	£1	\$1½, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$20, buyers
China Prov. L. & M...	\$10	\$9.80, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$115, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong	\$100	\$26, sales
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$8½.
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$25	\$48.
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$20½, sales
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$118.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$10½, sales
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$2, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$125, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G...	\$50	\$163, ex div.,
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$86, o. b. \$58, n. b.
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$160, sellers
Insurance—		512 p. ct. prem. =
Canton	\$50	\$765, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$132½, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$79, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$58, sellers
North-China	\$25	\$295, sellers
Straits	\$20	Tls. 165, sellers
Union	\$50	\$1.
Yangtze	\$60	\$262½, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$121, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$155, ex div.,
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$10, sales
West Point Building	\$50	\$25½, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$46, ex div., buys.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$36.
Gt. Estn. & C'donian	\$3	\$250, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	15 c. sales & sellers
Jebeu	\$5	40 cents
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c.	\$8½, sellers
Olivers Mines, A...	\$5	\$15, cents, sellers
Do. B...	\$4½	\$3.
Punjom	\$7	\$2½, sales
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$4½.
Raubs	16s. 10d.	\$1.
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$58, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		\$21, sellers
China and Manila	\$50	{ \$65, old sellers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	{ \$18, sellers
China Ordinary	£10	{ \$11, buyers
Do.	£5	{ \$10 10s., buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	{ \$5, 5s., buyers
H., Canton and M...	\$15	{ \$40, buyers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	{ \$30½, buyers
Shell Transport and	£100	{ \$70.
Trading Co.		{ \$200, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$18, sales & sells.
Tebrau Planting Co...	\$5	{ \$4½, buyers
Do.	\$3	{ \$5, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	{ \$1½, sellers
D.	\$10	{ \$9½, ex div., sellers
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	{ \$20, ex div.,
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	{ \$57, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	{ \$10.
The Universal Trad-	\$5	{ \$15½, sellers
ing Co., Ltd.		{ \$5½, buyers.

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 3rd August.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.53½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.58

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.06½
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	49
Credits, 60 days' sight	50

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	151½
Bank, on demand	151½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	151½
Bank, on demand	151½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	1½ p. c. pm.
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	2½ p. c. pm.
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	¾ p. c. pm.
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ON BATAVIA.—

On demand	121
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ON HAIPHONG.—

On demand	3½ p. c. pm.
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ON SAIGON.—

On demand	3 p. c. pm.
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ON BANGKOK.—

On demand	60
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

9.83

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

52.50

BAR SILVER, per oz

271½

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 3rd August.—During the period under review freights remain about the same as that of the preceding fortnight. From Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents nominal; to Philippines, 35 cents per picul can probably be obtained; to Java, 35 cents per picul. Java to Hongkong, 42½ cents per picul is offered for wet and 34 cents per picul dry sugar, two ports loading. Bangkok to Hongkong, no enquiry. Moji to Hongkong, \$3.40 per ton; to Singapore, \$3.80 per ton. Sailing vessels.—No charters have been reported. The British bark *Valkyrie*, 490 tons, has been sold for \$15,000. Mex. The American ship *Governor Robie*, 1,627 tons, left for Port Townsend, and German ship *R. C. Rickmers* proceeds to Bangkok, both in ballast under orders from owners.

The following are the settlements:—

Elita Nosoack—German steamer, 1,152 tons, two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 34 cents per picul. Dry sugar.

Benvenue—British steamer, 1,498 tons, Karatzu to Manila, \$5.50 per ton.

Germania—German steamer, 1,714 tons, Karatzu to Manila, \$5.75 per ton.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Karatzu to Manila, \$5.50 per ton.

Skarpno—Norwegian steamer, 1,140 tons, Karatzu to Cebu, \$6 per ton.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$3.40 per ton.

Axon—Aus. steamer, 989 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$3.30 per ton.

Chittagong—British steamer, 1,241 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.40 per ton.

Two China N. Co.'s steamer, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.40 per ton.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.40 per ton.

Chin—German steamer, 1,271 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.40 per ton.

Takan—British steamer, 977 tons, Hongay to Swatow, \$2.20 per ton.

A China N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java (32,000 piculs), 40 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to Cebu, 46 cents per picul.

Picciola—German steamer, 875 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 47 cents per picul.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Saigon to Iloilo or Cebu, 49 cents one port, 52 cents per picul two ports.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, Saigon to Iloilo or Cebu, 45 cents per picul.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, Saigon to Iloilo, 47 cents per picul.

China—German steamer, 1,271 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 17 cents per picul.

Taile—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 15 cents per picul.

Trym—Norwegian steamer, 710 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,500 per month.

Helios—Norwegian steamer, 832 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,750 per month.

Hermes—Norwegian steamer, 849 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,000 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—*Coromandel* (str.), *Rhipheus* (str.), *Calchas* (str.), *Prometheus* (str.), *Banca* (str.), *Java* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Annam* (str.), *Banca* (str.) (*Wakasa Maru* (str.)).

FOR LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—*Sarpedon* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Konig Albert* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Marburg* (str.), *Sazonia* (str.), *Sibiria* (str.), *Serbia* (str.), *Silesia* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Victoria* (str.), *Tartar* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—*Empress of China* (str.).

FOR PORTLAND, O.—*Monmouthshire* (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Algoa* (str.), *Nippon Maru* (str.), *Doric* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Albenga* (str.), *Richmond Castle* (str.), *Indravelli* (str.).

FOR SAN DIEGO AND KOBE.—*Carlisle City* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIA.—*Eastern* (str.), *Tsinan* (str.), *Changsha* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

July—

ARRIVALS.

- 27, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.
- 27, Yiksang, British str., from Hongay.
- 28, Chunsang, British str., from Saigon.
- 28, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
- 28, Macedonia, British str., from Moji.
- 28, Victoria, American str., from Moji.
- 28, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
- 28, Drumgarth, British str., from Hankow.
- 28, Kiangsi, British str., from Chefoo.
- 28, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., from Portland.
- 28, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 28, Acara, British str., from Amoy.
- 28, Fieramosca, Italian cr., from Singapore.
- 28, Maria Theresa, Aust. cr., from Singapore.
- 29, Marathon, British cruiser, from Bombay.
- 29, Duke of Portland, British transport, from Kurachi.
- 29, Sirha, British transport, from Calcutta.
- 29, Virawa, British transport, from Bombay.
- 29, Carlisle City, Brit. str., from S. Francisco.
- 29, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
- 29, Fushun, British str., from Shanghai.
- 29, Tiger, Norw. str., from Kutchinotzu.
- 29, Tonkin, French str., from Yokohama.
- 29, Kansu, British str., from Canton.
- 30, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
- 30, Apenrade, German str., from Hoihow.
- 30, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 30, Nairung, British transport, from Taku.
- 30, Islanda, British transport, from Bombay.
- 30, Vipere, French gunboat, from Saigon.
- 30, Pentakota, British transpt., from Calcutta.
- 30, Else, German str., from Canton.
- 30, Cheang H. Kian, Brit. str., from Singapore.
- 30, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
- 30, Nurnberg, German str., from Singapore.
- 30, Oopack, British str., from Glasgow.
- 30, Progress, German str., from Tournon.
- 30, Wallaroo, British cruiser, from Sydney.
- 31, Empress of China, Brit. str., from V'conver.
- 31, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
- 31, Urlana, British transport, from Calcutta.
- 31, Nowshera, British transpt., from Bombay.
- 31, Haiehing, British str., from Swatow.
- 31, Norwood, British ship, from Manila.
- 31, P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
- 31, Shantung, British str., from Java.

August—

- 1, Anping, British str., from Canton.
- 1, Fooksang, British str., from Moji.
- 1, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
- 1, Canning, British transport, from S'pore.
- 1, Natiana, British transport, from Calcutta.
- 1, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 1, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 1, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
- 2, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
- 2, Feiching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 2, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.

- 2, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
 2, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Liv, Norwegian str., from Kutchinotzu.
 2, Hino Maru, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.
 2, Tartar, British str., from Vancouver.
 3, Fushun, British str., from Canton.
 3, Kwangse, British str., from Canton.
 3, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
 3, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
 3, Tainan, British str., from Australia.
 3, Guichen, French cruiser, from Saigon.
 3, Chwnshan, British str., from Bangkok.
 3, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 3, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 3, Kalgan, British str., from Moji.

July— DEPARTURES.

- 28, Pronto, German str., for Chefoo.
 28, Chittagong, British str., for Moji.
 28, Prometheus, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 28, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 28, Kaifong, British str., for Manila.
 28, Java, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Melbourne.
 28, Anping, British str., for Canton.
 29, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
 29, Sullberg, German str., for Saigon.
 29, Kiaugai, British str., for Canton.
 29, Huiching, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Benvenna, British str., for Japan.
 29, Tansui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 29, Glarus, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Sirin, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 29, Baron Innerdale, British str., for Batavia.
 29, Goolwin, British str., for Tacoma.
 29, Alesia, German str., for Nagasaki.
 29, Nerbudda, British transport, for Bombay.
 29, Buffalo, American cruiser, for Taku.
 30, Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
 30, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
 30, S. v. Langkut, Dutch str., for Singapore.
 30, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
 30, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 30, Islanda, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 30, Daybreak, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Nairung, British transport, for Bombay.
 31, Pentakota, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 31, Mohawk, British cruiser, for Canton.
 31, Virawa, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 31, Duke of Portland, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 31, Urlana, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 31, China, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
 31, Kansu, British str., for Samarang.
 31, Fushun, British str., for Canton.
 31, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 31, Glenshee, British bark, for Callao.
 31, Queen Adelaide, British str., for Manila.
 31, Acara, British str., for New York.
 31, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
 31, Cheang H. Kian, British str., for Amoy.
 31, Marathon, H.M. cruiser, for Shanghai.
 31, Nowshera, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 31, Wallaroo, British cruiser, for Shanghai.

August—

- 1, Vipere, French gunboat, for Taku.
 1, Germania, German str., for Karatsu.
 1, Apenrade, German str., for Haiphong.
 1, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
 1, Vale of Doon, British bark, for Rajang.
 1, Machew, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Daphne, German str., for Nagasaki.
 1, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 1, Catherine Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
 1, Glenesk, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Fieramosca, Italian cruiser, for Shanghai.
 1, Maria Theresa, Austrian cr., for Shanghai.
 1, Valkyrien, British str., for Manila.
 2, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 2, Elise, German str., for Bangkok.
 2, Oopack, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Yiksang, British str., for Hongay.
 2, Govt. Robie, Amr. bark, for P. Townsend.
 2, Nurnberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 2, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
 2, Anping, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Feiching, Chinese str., for Canton.
 2, Tiger, Norw. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 2, Natiana, No. 19, British transport, for Weihaiwei.
 3, Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Kashing, British str., for Cebu.
 3, Macedonia, British str., for Moji.
 3, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 3, Taichow, British str., for Bangkok.
 3, Phranang, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Dr. Lyon, Miss Jewell, Miss Todd, Miss Peters, Miss Wells, Miss Wilkinson, Miss Scott, Dr. Scott, Mr. J. Ballat.

Per *Victoria*, from Moji, Mr. A. Harwood.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Messrs. Ker-math, S. Pratt, G. Goles, P. Walsh, J. H. Clarebone, E. Hyland, A. Michialson and D. Fix, Mr. and Mrs. McGregor, Mrs. Elena and 117 Chinese.

Per *Monmouthshire*, from Portland (Oregon), Messrs. Auld and Price.

Per *Lyeemoon*, from Shanghai, Mr. Roger, Miss Roger and Mr. Tegues.

Per *Tonkin*, from Yokohama, &c., Messrs. Boell, Degny, Belz and Lavise.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Capt. J. G. Green, U.S.N., Asst. Paymr. V. S. Jackson, U.S.N., Messrs. A. F. Brown, J. Carroll and native servant, H. N. Mickle, Mrs. F. H. Willie, Mrs. Chas. Thorn, Miss L. Meiners, Mr. M. Watson, Major and Mrs. H. C. Higgs and native servant.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong, from Marseilles, Lieut. Ducoroy, Mr. Greilsammer, Mrs. Weissmann, Messrs. Le Bras, Salon, Gourssac and Gullen; from Colombo, Rev. Frere Gabriel; from Singapore, Messrs. A. Cypler, A. Harper, Miss G. Hooper, Miss Strange, Rev. Frere Francis; from Saigon, Mr. Nichols; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Messrs. Lion, Huang and Dreyfus; from Saigon, Messrs. Jacquin and Ferris; for Nagasaki, from Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Lesener; from Singapore, Mrs. Okiku, Mrs. Shuku, Mrs. Omoto and Mrs. Omachu; from Saigon, Mrs. Marestant; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. B. Suzuki and Bloch; from Singapore, Miss Tógawa Hiro.

Per *Sungkiang*, from Manila, Messrs. J. A. Jeffreys, H. Mortz, Henry Jensen, L. P. Foster, H. H. Berners, W. H. Henry, W. Fuller, and N. McArthur.

Per *Islanda*, from Bombay, Capt. Rose, Capt. Ogilvie and Lieut. Alexander.

Per *Pentakota*, from Calcutta, Major Du Boulay, R.A., Capt. Cole, 11th Bengal Lancers, Capt. Cooper, 1st Sikhs, Capt. Hamilton, I.M.S., Major Johnstone, Lieuts. Gordon and Thompson and Capt. Blenkinsopp, I.M.S., of the 1st Madras Pioneers (right wing).

Per *Nowshera*, from Bombay, Major Carnegie, Capt. Couper, Grant, Lindsey, Hutchinson and Brodhurst (4th Goorkhas), Lieuts. Boileau, Pridham, Craster and Chaldecott (Bombay Sappers and Miners), Lieut. Groube (No. 1 Section Native Field Hospital).

Per *Wilana*, from Calcutta, Major McIntyre (commanding), Captain Willoughby (Special Service Officer), Lieut. Lees (Divisional Compt. Officer), Lieut. McCoy, I.M.S.

Per *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, Mr. C. Hose, Mrs. C. E. Morse, Rev. F. W. Warner, Col. Frazer, R.A., Miss L. Rigby, Miss F. Maskell and Mr. J. D. Hutchison; from Yokohama, Messrs. H. Bruening, Hutton Potts, Lieut. E. P. Balch, Dr. G. M. Harston, Messrs. E. Sherwin, J. Matheson, Mrs. Rustonjee, Misses Rustonjee (3), Miss Aldred; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Baldwin and Mr. F. B. Morse; from Nagasaki, Messrs. J. H. Stevens and Alex. Gow; from Shanghai, Mr. R. A. Dowler, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. King and Mr. T. C. Stafford.

Per *Haiching*, from Swatow, Messrs. Legg and Telusing.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama, Messrs. R. Masujima, H. E. Reynell, J. C. Haines, F. R. Wardle, Mrs. A. Wright and child, Messrs. K. Shineyama and J. Watanaba.

Per *Canning*, from Singapore, Col. Rundall, Lieut.-Col. Danva, I.M.S., Capt. Battye, Capt. Colomb, Capt. Ryall, Lieut. Nicolay and Lieut. Young.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from London, Lieut. A. Skeene, Capt. K. O. Burne, Lieut. G. D. Bruce, Capt. Spencer, Mrs. Spencer, child, infant and nurse; from Marseilles, Lieut. Earle, Lieut. Nicholson, Lieut. Rawlins, Lieut. Woodhouse, Lieut. O'Reilly and Lieut. Cheveux-Trench, Capt. F. Smith and Capt. Cadogan; from Brindisi, Major R. P. Littledale; from Penang, Mr. E. A. Hussain; from Singapore,

Messrs. R. Gantierrez, C. I. Johnson, and H. F. Gray; for Hongkong and Shanghai, from Bombay, Brig.-Genl. O. M. Creagh, V.C., Capt. W. A. Watson, Capt. J. M. Stewart, Capt. Brook- ing, apt. Rampini, Capt. Gaisford and Lieut. Nightingale; for Shanghai, from London, Surg. W. J. Roche, Staff-Surg. McMartin, Mr. Whit- ing, Col.-Sergt. McKeckine, Miss Barnes and Mr. W. Collins; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes; from Brindisi, Mr. W. J. Evans; from Colombo, Mr. Getley; for Kobe, from Colombo, Mr. J. G. D. Partridge; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. F. J. Hallard.

Per *Coromandel*, from Shanghai, for Hong- kong, Mr. A. R. Leake, Miss M. Brown and Miss Onyon; for Melbourne, Miss Urquhart; for London, Mr. E. H. Hartley, Mrs. Cousins, two children and amah, Masters Cousins (2), Lieut. H. Somerville, Mrs. Dickinson, Miss Mitohie, Mr. T. E. North, Misses North (3), Masters North (2), Miss Parkes and Messrs. O. and R. Williams.

DEPARTED.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Mrs. A. Tyre, Messrs. John Grieve, Geo. H. Percival and R. Tomi and Mrs. Tsuro.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Mrs. Blamco; for Marseilles, Mr. T. Kashimura; for London, Capt. Jones and Mr. F. S. Colman; for Colombo, Messrs. K. M. Sarisapper, U. O. Cololier and Simon; for Marseilles, Messrs. K. Fujie and T. Yoskimoto; for London, Messrs. J. Weir, S. Takota, Dorrell, J. Osborne, J. Crabtree and A. G. Hamilton Smythe; for Penang, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Cole, Messrs. Chas. E. Horth, J. A. Silva and B. Apper.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Hongkong, for Manila, General and Mrs. J. H. Smith, Mrs. Wolf, Mrs. Whelworth, Mrs. H. C. Hale, Mrs. Cooper and child, Miss Lowece, Mr. E. H. Moore, Mr. Kutz, Miss Lucy Cannon, Miss Emma Smith, Capt. Biddle, Mr. A. Isabelle, Miss A. Angela, Mr. R. Hidalgo, Mr. F. Garcia, Mr. J. Cabul and Mr. H. Clarke; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Clapperton, Miss Craik Vindia, Mr. P. W. Hood, Mr. H. Winch, Mrs. Fawcett and two children, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Farmane, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barnard, Mrs. Allardye, and three children and Mr. H. Austins; for Melbourne, Mr. C. Rendeton and Mr. H. L. Price; for Brisbane, Mr. Frank Lyle; from Japan for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Iohekawa, Mr. D. Garcia, Mr. C. Lamora, Mr. A. E. Weckstrom, Mr. J. McB. Master, Mr. J. McKenna and Mr. E. R. Russell; for Townsville, Mr. J. H. Lynch.

Per *Tonkin*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Dr. Thoulon and Mr. Gaultier; for Singapore, Miss H. Chagas, Rev. J. C. Bernardino, Messrs. F. Bonnet, J. Towbino and J. H. Lynch; for Col-ombo, Mr. B. S. Sethna, Mr. and Mrs. D. Fix; for Marseilles, Revs. F. P. Gonsalves, and I. C. Gonvea, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Barbosa, Miss F. Barbosa, Messrs. A. Barbosa, F. Barbosa, J. Barbosa, A. R. Cabral, Spencer Pratt, C. Bak-ker, Thompson, Brown, F. Streiff and A. Rebba.

Per *Ernest Simons*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. H. Heidenreich, Sandel, Hindekoper, J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mrs. R. dos Remedios and three children, Mr. and Mrs. R. Gomes, Mr. W. D. Charles; for Nagasaki, Mrs. M. Kobayashi, Mrs. Oohika and Mrs. Thoulon; for Yokohama, Mr. F. Oviedo.

Per *China*, for Shanghai, Messrs. J. H. Clai- borne, W. J. Russell and native servant, W. Greigor Taylor and native servant, G. H. Mc- Gregor, R. D. Webster, A. J. Pitcher, G. Lin- tow, Mrs. G. H. McGregor and Mr. Simada; for Kobe, Dr. Anna K. Scott, Miss Mary K. Scott, Miss Edith Wilkinson, Rev. F. T. John- son, Miss Killerby, Messrs. Hubbard T. Smith, Chas. A. Gaff, Rev. G. A. Bunbury and Master Sugden; for Yokohama, Messrs. C. Schroter, Howard Fallon, C. L. F. Duhan, F. Lammert and J. A. Lowson; for San Francisco, Miss L. Moneirs, Messrs. Henry Jensen, M. A. Cypher, C. J. Sherwood and C. Sass; for London, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Bosman and amah.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Manila, Capt. J. G. Green, U.S.N., Mr. Greilsammer, Mr. and Mrs. Werz, Mr. H. M. Mickle, Mrs. L. H. Willis, Messrs. Sia Lecoe, A. Vasquez, H. S. Jackson and Mrs. Macdonald.

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